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REPORT

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OF THE

**National Association *for the*  
Advancement *of* Colored People**

FOR THE YEARS

**1917 AND 1918**

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**EIGHTH AND NINTH ANNUAL REPORTS**

**A Summary of Work and an Accounting**

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**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT  
OF COLORED PEOPLE**

**NATIONAL OFFICE: 70 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK**

**January, 1919**

**Price 15 cents**





325.21  
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1911-1912

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
FOR THE  
ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

70 Fifth Avenue, New York City  
Official Organ—THE CRISIS, published Monthly.

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*Vice-Presidents*

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REV. JOHN HAYNES HOLMES  
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\* Elected November, 1918. † Resigned November, 1918.

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CAPT. ARTHUR B. SPINGARN

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\*Elected December, 1918.

## ERRATA

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*Page 64;* Under the heading "Legislation" text should read that *a judge fair to the Negro*, not a Negro, has been reappointed in the Canal Zone.

*Page 94;* The price of the pamphlet "Thirty Years of Lynching in the United States, 1889-1918", should be *fifty* cents instead of fifteen cents.



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## FOREWORD

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People herewith presents its eighth and ninth annual reports for the calendar years of 1917 and 1918.

The report for the year 1917 was omitted last year due to the exigencies of the war, which deprived the Association, while it enriched the nation, of the services of its Chairman of the Board of Directors, Major J. E. Spingarn, and of its secretary, Captain Royal Freeman Nash, both of whom are still serving in France with their regiments. The latter resigned in May, 1917, the office of Secretary remaining vacant until February, 1918.

The summary of the Association's work for 1917, is presented very briefly and that for 1918 in more detail. The Association feels gratified that in 1917 was won the notable Supreme Court decision against residential segregation of Negroes in cities, by unanimous decision of the court, and that in 1918, despite wartime conditions, it has been able to carry on and extend its work and increase its membership and support.

The Association in presenting this report would emphasize the anomaly of a group of approximately 11,000,000 Americans existing in a nation dedicated to democracy and yet denied in many states the most fundamental rights of citizenship, despite constitutional guarantees. It would plead for support in the great cause to which it is committed—that of securing for colored Americans, the common rights of American citizenship. It needs the moral and financial support of all who regard the fundamental principles upon which this nation was founded as more than “mere scraps of paper.”

## FORM OF BEQUEST

I give and bequeath to the "National Association For  
The Advancement Of Colored People," incorporated in  
the year 1911, under the Laws of the State of New York,  
the sum of.....  
.....  
dollars to be used for the purposes of the said Association.

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# EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

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## WORK FOR THE YEAR 1917

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Below are briefly summarized the principal activities of the Association for the year 1917.

### SEGREGATION DECISION

The most notable event affecting colored people to occur during 1917 (the Segregation Decision) was likewise the greatest achievement of the Association for the year. It is also regarded as the greatest legal victory in recognition of the rights of the colored people of America since the enactment of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments.

On November 5th the United States Supreme Court handed down a long-expected decision declaring unanimously that the segregation ordinance passed in Louisville, Ky., was unconstitutional.\* In the Association's Seventh Annual Report (for 1916) reference was made to segregation ordinances which had been passed in Baltimore, Md., Dallas, Texas, St. Louis, Mo., and Louisville, Ky.,† of the Association's efforts to prevent the enactment of these ordinances, and of the re-argument of the Louisville case before the Supreme Court by Mr. Clayton B. Blakey of the firm of Blakey, Quin & Lewis (Louisville, Ky.), attorney of record, and by Mr. Moorfield Storey, President of the Association. These ordinances were designed to confine colored people to certain restricted areas in cities, in brief, to create Negro Ghettos and thus not only

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\* The full text of the court's decision may be found in *The Crisis* for December, 1917. Excerpts are given below.

† Upwards of a dozen cities had passed such ordinances.

limit the rights of colored people and put upon them a stamp of inferiority, but force upon them over-crowding, poor lighting, less sanitary conditions than obtain for the rest of the city generally, a higher death rate from tuberculosis and other contagious and infectious diseases, greater infant mortality, a higher delinquency rate, and all the attendant evils resulting from adverse environment.

Mr. Storey summed up his argument in the following words:

"The question is whether the majority of the people dwelling in any locality may say to the minority, 'You shall not have the rights of other men to live where you please, but shall be limited to certain localities, not because you have violated any laws human or divine, or have done anything to make you bad neighbors, but because you are what God made you and because we consider ourselves your natural superiors, no matter what our habits or our qualities, because our complexion is different.'

"No more important question can be presented to this Court. The interests of ten million citizens are at stake. In their efforts to rise from slavery to equality with their fellow-men they are everywhere met by the effort to keep them down and to deny them that equal opportunity which the Constitution secures to us all. If they can be forbidden to live on their own land they can be forbidden to work at their own trade. If this is possible, the prejudice against which the Fourteenth Amendment was framed to defend the Negroes triumphs over it, and the amendment itself becomes a dead letter. If it does not protect the rights of all citizens, it does not protect the rights of any, since it knows no distinction of race or color."

Justice Day, in rendering the opinion of the court, said:

"The authority of the State to pass laws in the exercise of the police power, having for their object the promotion of the public health, safety, and welfare, is very broad and has been affirmed in numerous and recent decisions of this court. But it is equally well established that the police power, broad as it is, cannot justify the passage of a law or ordinance which runs counter to the limitations of the Federal Constitution.

"That there exists a serious and difficult problem arising from a feeling of race hostility which the law is powerless to control and to which it must give a measure of consideration, may be freely admitted. But its solution cannot be promoted by depriving citizens of their constitutional rights and privileges. The right which the ordinance annulled was the civil right of a white man to dispose of his property if he saw fit to do so to a person of color and of a colored person to make such disposition to a white person.

"We think the attempt to prevent the alienation of the property in question to a person of color was not a legitimate exercise of the police power of the State, and is in direct violation of the Constitution."

## OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE YEAR

In addition to the Segregation Decision, the following matters only, among the activities of the year, are mentioned, due to the fact of the delay in their presentation.

1. The Association renewed a petition, first presented in 1916, that colored men be eligible to certain regiments of infantry, cavalry and field artillery, about to be created, and that qualified, educated, colored men be afforded equal opportunity for training in Officers' Training Camps.

2. The Association opposed discrimination against colored men in any voluntary enlistment act or compulsory measure and to their exclusion from military service on the ground of needed "agricultural labor" or other subterfuge. Congressman Martin B. Madden, as a consequence, introduced an amendment to the selective service act, which was passed, fixing the quotas of all States in relation to their *total* population so that the South, if it succeeded in excluding Negroes, would have to send double quotas of white men.

3. When an officers' training camp for colored men was opened at Des Moines in May the Association took active part in the effort to secure the attendance of educated men from the several colleges and otherwise. When it became known that commissions were being held up the Association was active in Washington to insure that the commissions should be issued to the men in training who were entitled to receive them. Six hundred and seventy-eight men were commissioned.

4. A memorandum was presented in person by an Association officer to the Secretary of War, in October, setting forth the grievances of colored people as related to the War Department, which, unredressed, were having a most unfortunate effect upon the state of mind of the Negro population of the country. Secretary Baker gave assurances that the Negro soldier would receive fair treatment at the hands of the Department.

5. Successful appeals were made against colored draftees being forced into service as stevedores and common laborers, when they should have been enlisted as soldiers.

6. Efforts were made to prevent the enforced retirement of Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Young on account of alleged "high blood pressure" but without success, Lieutenant-Colonel Young being retired with the rank of colonel.\*

7. National Headquarters of the Association and the St. Louis branch assisted financially by other branches, were active in the investigation of the East St. Louis riots of July, in publishing the facts concerning them, which were more horrible than the daily press accounts of the affair, in organizing relief measures for the survivors, whose homes had been destroyed, and in legal measures for the defense of those Negroes accused of "inciting to riot" and of other offenses growing out of the riots.†

8. Soon after these riots a "Silent Protest" parade was held in New York, in which the Association's national and New York Branch officers were prominent, and which was so successful in accomplishing its purpose of awakening sentiment against mob violence, that it was repeated in other cities, where the Association had branches.

9. The following lynchings were investigated on the ground by Association investigators:‡

The lynching and burning at the stake of Ell Person at Memphis, Tennessee, in May.

The burning at the stake of Lignon Scott at Dyersburg, Tennessee, in December.

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\* See page 39 for further reference to this case in 1918 report.

† A full account of these matters has been published in various publications of the Association, particularly in *The Crisis*. One of the Association's investigators, Miss Martha Gruening, published an account of her investigation in *Pearson's Magazine*.

‡ The results of these investigations were published in *The Crisis* for August, 1917, and February, 1918, respectively. (See Appendix III for Lynching Record of 1917.)

10. An investigator was sent to Houston, Texas, to make inquiry into the outbreak at that place in which several white civilians were killed by colored soldiers of the 24th Infantry and for which the colored soldiers were punished with such terrible severity.\*

11. Following the exclusion of colored citizens from the Senate restaurant protest was made to the proper authorities, in reply to which Senator Overman, chairman of the committee in charge, said that no order to exclude colored people had been made.

12. Assistance was given the Boston branch of the Association in the fight against the extradition of John Johnson, colored, from Massachusetts to West Virginia, on the ground that he could not be guaranteed a fair trial in the latter State, on account of race prejudice. Extradition was refused.

13. A reception was tendered the colored public school graduates by the National Office of the Association for the purpose of encouraging as many as possible to continue their studies in higher institutions of learning.

14. One of the most successful national conferences ever held by the Association took place during December in New York and was attended by representatives of many branches, resulting in much benefit to the delegates from the exchange of experiences and to the movement from the considerable amount of publicity given the conference by the press.

15. Fifteen new branches in the South were added to the three branches south of Washington, D. C., of which the Association could boast theretofore, through an organizing trip taken by the Field Secretary, who began his work with the Association in January, 1917.

16. The report of *THE CRISIS* for 1918, which appears on a later page of this volume, includes a summary of the busi-

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\* The report of this investigation was published in *The Crisis* for November, 1917.



ness of the magazine for 1917. Aside from the editorship of THE CRISIS the activities of the Director of Publications and Research in 1917 included: investigation of Negro migration, with visits to six Southern States; an investigation into secondary education of Negroes, in cooperation with the Durham Commission; an investigation into the East St. Louis riots; an interview with the Secretary of War; and a number of lectures.

### “THE CRISIS” REVENUE AND EXPENSE ACCOUNT

For the Year Ending December 31, 1917

EXPENSES		REVENUE	
Publishing.....	\$14,289.24	Sales.....	\$19,494.25
Salaries.....	9,381.08	Subscriptions.....	9,352.86
General Expenses.....	3,134.11	Advertising.....	3,279.53
Postage.....	2,382.06	Profit on books, etc.....	736.75
Stationery and Supplies...	966.34		
Bad Debts.....	778.27		
Depreciation.....	113.13		
	<hr/>		
	\$31,044.23		
Net Profit.....	1,819.16		
	<hr/>		
	\$32,863.39		<hr/>
			\$32,863.39

### BALANCE SHEET

Dec. 31, 1917

ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
Cash in Bank.....	\$541.65	None.	
Petty Cash.....	25.00		
Accounts Receivable:			
Advertisers.....	1,408.70		
Agents.....	2,515.18		
Books.....	93.49		
N. A. A. C. P.....	121.20		
Books on Hand.....	183.38		
Paper on Hand.....	882.04		
Furniture and Fixtures....	2,149.42		
Printing (Advance).....	662.48	Net Worth.....	\$8,586.32
W. E. B. DuBois.....	3.78		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$8,586.32		\$8,586.32

## TREASURER'S REPORT\*

For the year ending December 31, 1917

## GENERAL FUND

Balance in Bank and Petty Cash Fund December 31, 1916..... \$1,880.46

## RECEIPTS for the year:

Memberships.....	\$4,804.15
Contributions.....	6,710.02
Literature Sales.....	22.04
<i>Crisis</i> Subscriptions (Net).....	120.20

\$11,656.41\$13,536.87

## EXPENDITURES for the year:

Salaries.....	\$5,338.48
General Expenses and Supplies.....	1,646.29
Printing.....	1,457.23
Traveling Expense.....	1,124.84
Postage.....	816.73
Advertising.....	316.00
Branch Bulletin (Net Cost of Printing).....	311.13
"Rachel" Play.....	73.66

\$11,084.36

Furniture Purchased.....	90.99
Emblems Purchased (Net).....	16.75
Loan to New York Branch.....	314.96

\$11,507.06

Balance in Bank and Petty Cash Fund, December 31,

1917..... \$2,029.81\$13,536.87

## BALANCE SHEET

## ASSETS:

Balance in Bank.....	\$2,004.81
Petty Cash Fund.....	25.00
Loan to New York Branch.....	314.96
Emblems on Hand.....	179.80
Furniture and Fixtures.....	949.38

\$3,473.95

## LIABILITIES:

Due <i>The Crisis</i> for Subscriptions.....	120.20
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NET WORTH December 31, 1917..... \$3,353.75\$3,473.95


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\* National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, exclusive of *The Crisis*.

**TREASURER'S REPORT\***

For the year ending December 31, 1917

**SPECIAL FUNDS****Balances in Banks December 31, 1916:**

Anti-Lynching Fund.....	\$9,131.24
Anti-Segregation Fund.....	191.53
Maclean Memorial Fund.....	270.57
Jim Crow Fund.....	2.00

\$9,595.34**RECEIPTS for the year:**

Anti-Lynching Fund.....	\$2,676.66
Maclean Memorial Fund.....	10.90
Anti-Segregation Fund.....	155.00
Legal Fund.....	42.50
Jim Crow Fund.....	6.00

2,891.06\$12,486.40**EXPENDITURES for the year:****Anti-Lynching Fund-**

Traveling and Investigation Expenses.....	\$2,052.81
Salaries.....	888.38
Printing.....	756.51
Miscellaneous.....	133.03

\$3,830.73

Anti-Segregation Fund.....	346.53
----------------------------	--------

\$4,177.26\$8,309.14**Balances in Banks December 31, 1917:**

Anti-Lynching Fund.....	\$7,977.17
Maclean Memorial Fund.....	281.47
Legal Fund.....	42.50
Jim-Crow Fund.....	8.00

\$8,309.14**GENTLEMEN:**

Herewith I hand you Revenue and Expense Account for the year 1917 and Balance Sheet as of December 31, 1917, as drawn off by me from your ledger. I have independently verified the amount of Cash in Banks.

Respectfully submitted,

F. J. BATCHELDER, C. P. A.

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\* National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, exclusive of *The Crisis*.



# NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

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WORK OF THE YEAR 1918



# I

## MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

December 31, 1917, 80 Branches, 9,282 Members.

December 31, 1918 165 Branches, 43,994 Members.

### Nearly 35,000 New Members

It is in no boasting spirit that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People alludes to the year's increase in the number of its branches and in membership, but with a deepening and sobering sense of opportunity and responsibility.

On January 1, 1918, the records of the National Association showed a membership of 9,282, distributed among 80 branches and 846 members at large. On December 31st there were 165 branches and approximately 44,000 (43,994) members, 1,272 of whom are members at large, and 42,722 branch members.

Distributed by geographical divisions, according to the classification adopted by the Bureau of the Census, the number of branches and branch members in each of the several divisions is as follows.\*

Divisions	Branches	Members
New England States.....	6	4,978
Middle Atlantic States.....	20	4,701
East North Central.....	36	8,021
West North Central.....	14	3,257
South Atlantic.....	44	5,661
District of Columbia.....	1	6,843
East South Central.....	6	2,591
West South Central.....	19	3,606
Mountain.....	5	717
Pacific.....	11	2,142
Outside U. S.....	3	206

\*In an appendix is shown in a table, the membership on December 31, 1918, of all branches, classified by geographical divisions and by states.

In the three divisions containing the Southern States, it is interesting to note that there are 69 Branches and 11,858 members. Adding to these the membership of the District of Columbia Branch, the Association shows a membership in the South and near South of 18,701, or more than twice that of the whole membership one year ago.

### **Increase in Size of Branches**

Notable, too, is the increase in the size of the branches themselves. There are 126 branches with memberships of 50 and over; 73 with memberships of 100 and over; 42 with more than 200 members; 33 have 300 or more; 32 have more than 500, while 9 branches exceed 1,000 in number and 2 have more than 2,500 members.

In percentages, 20 per cent of the branches have more than 300 members each; 25 per cent more than 200 each and 44 per cent of the branches count 100 members or more on their membership rolls. One-seventh of them have more than 500 members, while less than one-fourth fall below 50 members. Some of these latter, the majority in fact, are on probation, so to speak, awaiting an increase to at least 50 members before they are eligible for formal chartering.

The following comparative table shows the relative number of branches with a given number of members at the close of 1917 and 1918 respectively:

Members	Dec. 31,	Per Cent	Dec. 31,	Per Cent
	1917		1918	
Less than 50.....	33	41.2	39	23.6
50 and more.....	47	58.9	126	76.3
100 and more.....	25	31.2	73	44.2
200 and more.....	9	11.2	42	25.4
300 and more.....	5	6.2	33	20.
500 and more.....	3	3.9	22	13.3
1,000 and more.....	0	....	9	5.4
2,500 and more.....	0	....	2	1.2

Six states have more than 10 branches each; Georgia, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Virginia and Texas. Most remarkable of all perhaps is the rapid growth of membership in Texas, in which state there are at present 11 branches and 2,652 members. One of these branches, San Antonio, sent its application for charter in March last and has since reached a total of 1,228. Far away California, with relatively smaller colored populations in her cities, gives the Association nine branches and 1,756 members.

Among the states, Ohio holds the palm for the largest number of members (4,117), followed in order by Massachusetts with 3,416 members and Texas as a third on the list with her 2,652 members, as has heretofore been mentioned. All of these states are exceeded, however, by the single branch of the District of Columbia with its imposing total of 6,843.

The total increase for the year was 85 new branches and 34,712 members, which, expressed in percentages, is equivalent to an increase of 375 per cent in membership and over 100 per cent in the number of branches.

### **Significance of Membership Growth**

That so many new branches and members have enlisted under the banner of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People during a year when the nation was straining its resources to the utmost to defeat the purposes of threatening autocracy, and when colored people from their smaller resources were doing their full share in subscribing to Liberty Loan, Red Cross and War Relief funds, is, indeed, a matter for congratulation. The colored people of the nation, stirred as they have never been before by the idealism of an appeal to "make the world safe for democracy," have responded to the nation's call for service and sacrifice in such high spirit of devotion, their sons have fought Liberty's battles on the shell-swept plains of France in such

unflinching fashion, as to have earned them the spontaneous tributes of the press and the peoples of America and the Allied countries. Had colored men never fought before, their fame as soldiers would have been securely established by the exploits of individuals like Needham Roberts and Henry Johnson and of regiments like the 369th (the old New York 15th) and the 367th, and other Negro units whose members received the honor of the French *croix de guerre* as a testimony to the bravery of the whole personnel of both regiments!

### **Stirred by War for Democracy**

Fighting thus, as President Wilson phrased it, "for the things which we have always carried nearest our hearts—for democracy, for the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own government," it was but natural that in so tremendous a year the fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers and wives of such soldiers, the men and women who responded to the nation's call for home service in field, factory, workroom and home, should respond to the challenge of the time and take their place in the ranks of an Association which is dedicated to the material and spiritual achievement of America's purpose—that democracy—at home and abroad—should be the rule of American life and the aim of American statesmanship.

### **Awakening to the Need for Organized Effort**

To many movements, such as increase of membership as has come to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People during the year, would mean largely, if not solely, an increase of income—more money with which to work. It means this to the Association, although the present minimum membership fee is so small (one dollar, of which but fifty cents comes to the National Office), that the financial

benefits are less than the numbers would indicate to the casual observer. But these newly gained members and branches — mean much more than money. They mean an awakening of the colored people of the nation to the need for organization—to a sense of citizenship denied and of their responsibilities for bringing to themselves, their children and to America, itself, the blessings of a fuller participation on the part of colored people, in the nation's political, economic and community life. These members mean, also, an increasing sense of unity—a new responsibility, on the part of Northern people, for the welfare of their brethren of the darkest South. To an appreciable but lesser degree, they mean a greater interest by white people in the cause of the colored, which, after all, is less the cause of the colored American than of all Americans.

### **Thorough Organization A Promise of Victory**

Further, the existence of 165 branches in 38 states and outside the United States,\* is a promise and assurance of victory—a great potential force which, added to by subsequent increases which are confidently to be anticipated in the months to come, will, and does, give the movement a breadth and sweep which will finally make the things we strive for, not a program nor a protest, but an actuality.

Finally, they mean a democratic movement, supported by the devotion and the dollars of the many, rather than by the large contributions of a philanthropic few. The Association deeply appreciates and needs the generous gifts of those who can afford to give in larger amounts and believes that such givers will find new reasons to support a cause which has the confidence and backing of so many of those whom it seeks to serve and with whom it works shoulder to shoulder.

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\*Three branches outside the United States, proper.



## **The Power of Organization**

One of the Association's supreme aims, as a means towards accomplishing its purposes, is to weld the Association's supporters into a compact, unified, thoroughly organized and intelligently directed whole. The organization is increasingly becoming, not a mass of people, but an army with well defined objectives and clearly conceived and well executed methods of work. Inertia is being overcome, hope is being stimulated and confidence instilled in the whole group whose interests it promotes. The Association's present strength is but a beginning; its existing degree of organization only an incentive to greater numbers and more perfect methods of work.

The Association is striving to become so strong in numbers and so effective in method, that no President, no governor, North or South, no member of Congress of any party and no mayor of a city, will dare commit any indignity against colored people without realizing that the legitimate and constitutional rights of the race will be defended in the press, on the platform, at the ballot box and in the courts.

## **Justice Needs Defenders**

—In President Wilson's address in New York on September 27th last, on the occasion of the launching of the Fourth Liberty Loan campaign, he set before the American people as the first of the principles which should guide the proposed Peace Settlement that "The impartial justice meted out must involve no discriminations between those to whom we wish to be just and those to whom we do not wish to be just. It must be justice that plays no favorites and knows no standard but the equal rights of the several peoples concerned."

Applied to the relation of the races in America, no one of us would ask more and in justice to our Americanism we cannot accept less. When the Association has strengthened and organized its forces so as truly to be able to speak and act for



the colored people of America and a sufficient number of their white fellow-citizens to whom the plain provisions of the Constitution are more than high sounding platitudes, then, and we fear not until then, may we be sure that politicians, administrators and statesmen in America will always actually be "just to those to whom (they) do not wish to be just" and "play no favorites" as between Americans of varying shades of skin.

### **Association Branches as Weapons**

In this process and toward this end, the Association's branches are weapons of the utmost value and importance. Did we not have them, we should be forced to invent them.\* As these words are being written (January 4, 1919) a letter was received by the secretary, informing us that the Houston, Texas, branch had taken the initiative in calling the Texas branches together to present to the Governor of that state a petition that steps be taken immediately by the Governor of Texas and the Texas legislature, shortly to be convened, to put a stop to lynching in Texas. Press accounts state that they were received with courtesy and attention by the Governor who promised that he would heed their plea. These branches have drafted a bill, containing special features to prevent lynching, for introduction into the Texas legislature.

### **Training in Citizenship**

It may be pointed out that, particularly in the Southern States, and only in lesser degree in all the states, participation in the activities of the N. A. A. C. P. branches constitutes a valuable training for that fuller participation in the duties and responsibilities of citizenship for which the Association strives. Inevitably men and women learn by doing.

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\*See pages 61 to 68 for a brief summary of the work of branches.

Since to the mass of Negroes of the South the ballot is denied, these branches afford perhaps the best, if not in many cases the only, opportunity for discussion and action along political lines. They are, in such cases, veritable schools of citizenship for whose existence, we may hope, a later and a wiser generation of Southerners may some day pay just, if long neglected, tribute.

## II

### THE FIGHT AGAINST LYNCHING

"I therefore very earnestly and solemnly beg that the governors of all the states, the law officers of every community, and above all, the men and women of every community in the United States, all who revere America and wish to keep her name without stain or reproach, will co-operate, not passively merely, but actively and watchfully to make an end of this disgraceful evil. It cannot live where the community does not countenance it."

July 26, 1918.

WOODROW WILSON.

#### Comment by the Way

An increased executive and clerical staff has permitted the Association to devote more time and thought to its Anti-Lynching work and to conduct a more energetic campaign for legal trial of Negro alleged offenders, than in any previous year of the Association's history. Lynching is rapidly becoming a national issue. Under the stress of war time, mob violence has menaced communities heretofore relatively immune. Four white men were lynched in 1918. And yet, when all the facts are summed up, and we would be the last to minimize the evil of mob violence or to excuse it in the least degree, *the lynching of Negroes by whites* is the outstanding fact in the situation.

Sixty-three Negroes are known to have died at the hands of white mobs during 1918, as we point out in succeeding pages. These lynchings might well be regarded as evidences of civil war were it not that *up to this time* the Negroes have not retaliated in kind. In the absence of combined action by Negroes forcibly to protect members of their race, the lynching of black men and women by white men for all causes and no cause, so far as crimes are concerned, can only

be compared, although in lesser degree, to Russian pogroms against Jews under the Tzarist regime, or to Turkish attacks upon the Armenians.

We would deeply deplore the forcible defense of Negroes by other Negroes, since it would perhaps lead to sanguinary conflicts between the lower element of whites and the Negroes, but no sane observer can fail to reflect that either white men, who make and enforce the laws, must stop mob attacks upon black men, no matter what reason may be given for the attacks, or confess themselves unable to maintain law and order and protect *all* citizens from unlawful attack. No class of citizens can be denied the protection of the law with impunity.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People fights this evil, as others in its program, with spiritual and legal weapons. Its appeal is to the heart, the mind, the conscience of America. It insists upon "ordered law and humane justice," to quote a phrase used by President Wilson in his appeal to the country against lynching. It has hoped that the better South would rouse itself and wipe out this terrible blot upon its honor. But the wait has been a long one. Can the Negro depend upon securing *his day in court* so long as he has no say as to who sits upon the bench, in the jury box, or who becomes the sheriff or chief of police? Think it over in the light of experience, ye voters and students of history and politics!

### Extent of the Lynching Evil\*

#### *Previous to 1918*

The records show that from 1885 to 1917, both inclusive, approximately 3,740 lynchings have occurred in the United

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\*The Association has in preparation a pamphlet, which will appear in April, 1919, entitled, "Thirty Years of Lynching in the United States, 1889-1918," which can be secured from the secretary.

States. Two thousand seven hundred and forty-three (2,743) of this number have had colored persons as victims and nine hundred and ninety-seven (997) have been white. The relative percentages of white and colored victims for the 33 years covered is 26 per cent, white; 74 per cent, colored.

Assuming that the record for the earlier years is less accurate than for the later period, because of many factors (all lynching figures are probably minimum), the figures for the 18 years, 1900 to 1917, both inclusive, are given. Fourteen hundred and twenty-seven (1,427) lynchings are recorded for the period named. Twelve hundred and forty-one (1,241) of these (86.7 per cent) were Negroes; 186 (13.3 per cent) were white. The relative decrease of white victims is marked.

The victims of the East St. Louis mob riots of July, 1917, are excluded, as are those of the mob riot at Chester, Pa. The number of victims at East St. Louis has been estimated at as many as 175. In the report of the Congressional Investigating Committee (House Document No. 1,231, 65th Congress, 2nd Session) the Committee says that "at least 39 Negroes and 8 white people were killed outright, and hundreds of Negroes were wounded and maimed."\*

### *During 1918*

During 1918, 63 Negroes and 4 white persons were lynched, as established by well authenticated evidence.† The Executive Office has been advised of a probable increase of this figure by 12 cases of which it is said that confirmation of lynching can be obtained, but, as the Executive Office has

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\*"The bodies of the dead Negroes," testified an eye-witness, "were thrown into a morgue like so many dead hogs." *Ibid.*, page 4.

†See "Lynching Record for 1917 and 1918," Appendix III, page 89, for chronological list of name, place, date and alleged cause of lynchings for 1917 and 1918.

been unable to investigate these cases, they have, of course, been excluded from our figures.

An Association staff member, while in the South studying special problems, was informed by reliable colored people in Georgia that twelve unreported cases (in the press or elsewhere) have occurred since the Association investigated the Brooks and Lowndes Counties, Georgia, lynching orgy of May, 1918, and that the only apparent effect in Georgia of the President's lynching pronouncement of July 26th last, has been an apparently concerted agreement on the part of press and authorities to keep all news regarding lynchings out of the Georgia press. Lending some color to this charge, is the fact that, so far as we are aware, no Georgia daily has at any time since May, 1918, published any account of the investigation made by the Association or of the fact that 17 names of mob leaders were put in the hands of Governor Dorsey, despite the considerable press comment in the press of other states.

One of our Texas branches (Houston) reported the case of one alleged victim of a mob who was buried secretly and no publicity given to the facts. The branch's president had written to the acting-governor requesting an investigation of the circumstances.\* Finally, some lynchings which do not get into the press, are not carried beyond the immediate neighborhood, sometimes a very small one, unless there is some unusual feature to distinguish the event.

### **Distribution of the 1918 Lynchings**

During 1918 lynchings have occurred in the following states:†

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\*Nothing came of this request in the way of legal action.

†Four of the lynched victims were white men (one each in Arkansas, California, Illinois and Texas), 63 were Negroes and 5 of the latter women.



Alabama.....	3
Arkansas.....	3
California.....	1
Florida.....	2
Georgia.....	19
Kentucky.....	1
Louisiana.....	9
Illinois.....	1
Mississippi.....	7
North Carolina.....	2
Oklahoma.....	1
South Carolina.....	1
Tennessee.....	4
Texas.....	11*
Virginia.....	1
Wyoming.....	1
	<hr/>
	67

## Offenses Charged Against the 1918 Victims†

### *Negroes*

"Attacks on white women".....	13
"Attacks on colored women".....	1
"Living with white woman".....	1
"Too revolting to publish".....	2
"Shooting and killing officer of law".....	10
"Murder of civilian".....	14
"Shooting and wounding".....	4
"Conspiracy to avenge killing of relative".....	6
"Accomplice in murder".....	3
"Aiding mob victim in attempt to escape".....	1
"Intent to rob and kidnap".....	1
"Quarrel with employer".....	1
"Creating disturbance".....	1
"Stealing hogs".....	3
"Unknown".....	2
	<hr/>
	63

### *Whites*

"Disloyal utterances".....	2
"Murder".....	2
	<hr/>
	4

\*In *The Crisis* for February, 1919, page 181, this total is given as 12. The case of George Cabiness, whose mother and four brothers and sister were lynched, for alleged threats to avenge the killing of George, has been eliminated from the lynching record as the latter was alleged to have been killed resisting arrest.

†According to press accounts, except in a very few cases in which the victim was actually tried before a court and later taken from the jail and lynched.

### Special Features of Lynchings

Five of the Negro victims have been women. Two colored men were burned at the stake before death; four Negroes were burned after death; three Negroes, aside from those burned at the stake, were tortured before death; in one case the victim's dead body was carried into town on the running board of an automobile and thrown into a public park where "it was viewed by thousands;" one Negro victim was captured and handed to the officers of the law by Negroes themselves. A mother and her five children were lynched by a Texas mob, the mother having been shot as she was attempting to drag the bodies of her four dead sons from their burning home at daybreak, the house (only a cabin) having been fired by the mob. The crime in this case was "alleged conspiracy to avenge" the killing of another son by officers who had come to arrest him for "evading the draft law." This latter case has not been classified as a lynching.

Most atrocious of all, so far as the community was concerned, was the five days' orgy in Brooks and Lowndes Counties, which has been made the occasion for special publicity and special efforts by the Association, to which reference is made on page 28 of this report. In that case the particularly vicious brutality of the mob went beyond what one is prepared to expect from Georgia mobs—and one expects a good deal in the way of "cruel and unusual punishments" from them. The horrible cruelties visited upon Mary Turner, an eight month's pregnant woman, are recited in the investigation published of our investigator's findings.\*

In two cases the lynchings were carried out in the court house yard and in one of these picture post card photos were sold on the streets at 25 cents each.

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\*Published in *The Crisis* for September, 1918. *The Work of a Mob*, and reprinted by the Association under the title, "*The Lynchings of May, 1918, in Brooks and Lowndes Counties, Georgia*," September, 1918, 6 p.



**Taken from Peace Officers and Jails**

Our records show the following number of cases of lynchings of Negroes in which the victim was taken from officers or jails:

Alabama.....	2
Georgia.....	4
Louisiana.....	2
Mississippi.....	1
North Carolina.....	1
Oklahoma.....	1
South Carolina.....	1
Tennessee.....	1
	<hr/>
	13

**Innocence Admitted Publicly**

In three cases of which we have record the press has spoken of the innocence of victims; one of these involved three persons, another the ten victims of Brooks and Lowndes Counties mobs (aside from the one person who shot the white farmer which was the incentive to the lynchings). In another case it is the common belief in the community in which a Negro was lynched for "killing a white woman" that the husband of the woman was himself the murderer. No charge has been brought against him, however, by the authorities. In such cases, Negroes are usually too fearful of danger and too hopeless of anything being done, to initiate legal action. In an additional case a bank cashier declared in an interview in an Alabama paper, that a certain lynching victim had committed no offense, that there had been a mistake made in the man the mob was after.

**Legal Action Taken by Public Officials**

Governor Thomas W. Bickett of North Carolina ordered the sheriff to investigate one case, but the sheriff reported that the "guilty parties could not be ascertained." The Governor in another case personally appealed to a mob at midnight and prevented the lynching of a man who was later hanged. The same Governor in November appealed to the Federal

authorities and secured the support of a tank corps of 250 Federal army men to assist the authorities of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, in holding the local jail against a mob which was attempting to get a Negro prisoner to lynch him.

The Mayor and "Home Guards" of Winston-Salem, aided by the Federal soldiers alluded to, protected the aforementioned prisoner at the cost of the lives of some of the "Home Guards," for which public service, so unusual where Negro-hunting mobs are concerned, they should receive the tributes of all good citizens. (The Association's appreciation was made known to all concerned by a public commendation).\*

Governor Richard I. Manning of South Carolina ordered a sheriff to arrest 17 prominent farmers who had participated in a lynching. Bail was fixed at a total of \$97,500, in February. From the Judge who placed the men under bail we learn that no indictments were found by the grand jury. "Lack of evidence," is given as the reason.

Governor Charles Henderson of Alabama, in November, actively supported the attorney general of the state, who, at the instance of the Governor, personally took charge of an investigation of two lynchings which occurred in that state on the 10th and 12th of that month.

When a regular grand jury then in session failed to indict, a prominent detective agency was engaged and upon the evidence secured by them, a special grand jury, headed by a local clergyman, brought in 24 indictments. Seventeen men were lodged in jail without bail.†

\*As we go to press, information has come that Judge B. F. Long has sentenced 15 men involved in the attempt to storm the Winston-Salem jail to prison terms ranging from fourteen months to six years. This is indeed a rarity and an occasion for rejoicing.

†At the trial of the two alleged ringleaders of the mobs, which was held at Tusculumbia, Alabama, on February 3 and 4, 1919, the jury, assembled from the neighborhood, found a verdict of not guilty. The secretary of the Association was in attendance at the trial and has written a report of it which has been published as a special pamphlet *Dispensing With Justice in Alabama*—a Report of the Trial of Frank Dillard, Alleged Lyncher, at Tusculumbia, Alabama, February 3 and 4, 1919, by John R. Shillady, Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People).

## Specific Action by the Executive Office

The following tables summarize the action taken in specific cases by the Association:

State	Telegrams and Letters of Protest, Inquiry and Commendation			Acknowledgments			Press Stories
	Gov.	Chamb. of Com.	Other Official Persons	Gov.	C. of C.	Other	
Alabama.....	2	10	..	..	2	..	1
Arkansas.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Georgia.....	5	2	..	2	..	..	8
Kentucky.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Louisiana.....	7	11	..	..	2	..	9
Mississippi.....	2	..	..	..	..	1	2
North Carolina...	3	1	1	2	1	1	3
Oklahoma.....	1	..	..	1	..	..	2
South Carolina...	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Tennessee.....	5	9	7	2	3	2	9
Texas.....	3	..	1	1	..	..	3
Wyoming.....	1	..	..	1	..	..	1
	32	33	9	9	8	4	40*

\*In listing by states there are duplications in cases where a single press story includes matter affecting more than one state. The total 40 is the actual number of press stories, eliminating the duplicate count by states.

Special investigations by a member of the staff have been made of lynchings at Fayetteville, Ga., Brooks and Lowndes Counties, Ga., Estill Springs, Tenn., Blackshear, Ga., and of race riots and disturbances at Camp Merritt, N. J., Brooklyn, N. Y. and Philadelphia, Pa.†

Memoranda were prepared and sent to the President of the United States, to the Attorney General of the United States and to the executive committees of the American Bar

†Of these investigations, the following have been published and may be obtained upon application to the National Secretary: Brooks and Lowndes Counties, Georgia (see foot-note, page 30); Estill Springs, Tenn. (see *The Crisis* for May, 1918, pages 16-20); Philadelphia Race Riots of July 26 to July 31, 1918, 8 p.

Association, on the general subject of lynching, but with reference to immediate practical action desired by the Association. Letters requesting editorial interest in the fight against lynching were addressed to the leading papers of the country on several occasions and matter has been prepared for specific use by individual papers.

Publicity in the press was secured for the memorandum to the President and to the Attorney General. Mr. Storey's address to the Wisconsin Bar Association, June, 1918, on "The Negro Question," which contains much reference to lynching, was sent to all the members of the Cabinet and of the Congress, to Governors of all the states, mayors of cities, to newspapers, periodicals, and to leading citizens and will be given wider circulation during the early part of 1919.\*

The members of the executive staff have made reference to lynching in addresses in many cities to both white and colored audiences. Certain of Field Secretary Johnson's addresses before white audiences have met with notable responses.

The offer of the publishers of the *San Antonio Express*, San Antonio, Texas, made in April, to pay rewards of \$1,000, for each conviction and punishment of the lynchers of a Negro (and \$500, if white), has been given wide publicity among the branches and the colored press. (No one has claimed a reward from this fund as yet, however).

### Illustration of Results Following the Association's Publicity Work

The following examples of results following publicity sent out by the Association and telegrams addressed to Governors and Chambers of Commerce are reviewed:

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\*Printed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People as "The Negro Question" (with resolutions adopted by the Bar Association following the delivery of the address), 30 pages, ten cents per copy.

On November 9, telegrams of inquiry and appeal for legal action in the case of the lynching of George Taylor at Rolesville, near Raleigh, N. C., were sent to Governor Bickett of North Carolina, to the County Solicitor of Wake County and to the Chamber of Commerce of Raleigh, of which that to the Governor was acknowledged. The Governor said that he agreed with the points made in the telegram and would back the County Solicitor in efforts to fix the blame for the affair. The Solicitor carried on an investigation for two weeks, examining 21 white and 9 colored witnesses. The coroner's jury ran true to form, finding that the victim came to his death at the hands of "parties unknown" to the jury.

The two leading Raleigh newspapers, one of them owned by Secretary of the Navy Daniels, carried strong editorial comment against the lynching and criticized the dereliction of the officers in allowing their prisoner to be taken from them. One of them commented directly and favorably on the Association's telegrams to the Governor.

Ten days later, as has been mentioned on a preceding page of this report, the same Governor appealed successfully to an adjacent army camp for help to support the mayor and "home guards" of Winston-Salem in holding the local jail against a mob which was attempting to seize a Negro prisoner to lynch him.

The Chambers of Commerce of Montgomery and Birmingham, Alabama, acknowledged telegrams and letters of the Association sent during November, saying that they supported our view (that the lynchers of Will Byrd and Henry Whiteside should be ascertained and legal action against them taken) and that the Governor had ordered the action referred to on a previous page of this report, that of instructing the attorney general of the state to push an investigation of the lynchings at Sheffield and Tuscumbia, Alabama.

Space forbids the citation of further examples. In many



cases, however, no direct effect was produced by the Association's long distance efforts. It would be a mistake, however, to assume that no beneficial results can be credited to such of the Association's forty telegraphic inquiries (accompanied by newspaper publicity) as had occasioned no immediate action. Correspondents have written and callers at the National Headquarters have assured the National Officers of the value of this publicity work. In some cases local leaders among the white citizens have called upon colored people to assure them of their concern for the well being and protection of the *good* Negro and incidentally, we are told, to advise them against allying themselves with "northern agitators."

That the pressure of national opinion is felt and feared, even in the center of the lynching area, is evidenced by such editorials as that following a protest against a Louisiana lynching, in which a local editor devoted a column of matter to "lambasting" the National Secretary under the caption "No Outside Scolds Needed." It was asked why this "Association with the long name" was endeavoring to hold Louisiana up to the *scorn of the country*, etc., *ad lib*.

### Outstanding Events Aside From Association Efforts

The most notable events affecting the anti-lynching campaign, aside from the Association's efforts, have been the President's July 26 pronouncement against lynching, the formation of the Tennessee Law and Order League to suppress lynching in March, and its announced campaign to stimulate the organization of similar movements in all the Southern states and the offer of *The San Antonio Express* heretofore mentioned.\* The latter offer is, of course, of scant promise for effective service in the campaign.

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\*Little, if any, progress was made in 1918, however, in the Law and Order League endeavor, according to our best information, and no rewards were claimed from the *San Antonio Express*.

### III

## WELFARE AND DEFENSE OF COLORED SOLDIER

Throughout the year the Executive Office has been concerned with a very considerable number of matters affecting the welfare and interests of colored soldiers in whose notable achievements the Association has taken keen and proud interest.

### **Houston Affair**

They have included the appeal to the President on behalf of clemency for the condemned, but not yet executed, members of the 24th Infantry, by the Field Secretary and a committee representative of the New York Branch, at which time the President promised to review the record of past and future trials of the men involved, which promise was kept. While the President's decision commuting the sentences of some of the men was not what we had hoped it might be, yet it is our conviction that much of the credit for such clemency and leniency as was shown the men may fairly be attributed to the timeliness and effectiveness of the appeal of the Field Secretary and the committee. Supplementing this personal appeal, the Association was active in urging the public and the branches to petition the Secretary of War and the President for clemency.

### **"Jim-Crowing" of Colored Officers**

Cases of denial of Pullman service to colored officers to whom government transportation, including Pullman tickets, had been furnished, were taken up with the War Department as occasion offered.

In March, the case of Lieut. C. A. Tribbetts, a graduate of Yale and of the Sheffield Scientific School, who had been forced out of a Pullman coach at Chickasha, Oklahoma, lodged in jail and fined, was presented to the Department. In June, the case of Private S. P. Jones, in private life a dentist of good standing in St. Louis, Mo., was similarly laid before the War Department. Private Jones was ordered out of a Pullman at Texarkana, on the border between Arkansas and Texas. In neither case, despite the fact that both soldiers were traveling on Government order, and had been furnished Pullman transportation, did the War Department afford a remedy, or make any attempt to do so, other than to inform the Association that the matter was thought by a high subordinate of the Secretary of War "to have to do with the execution of a state law" and that it had been referred to the Adjutant General for an opinion. Despite the further efforts of the Association, including wide-spread publicity of its protests, no redress was afforded.\*

### Ballou Order—"Do Not Go Where You Are Not Wanted"

In April, spirited protest, accompanied by considerable press publicity, was made against the famous (or infamous) order of Major General C. C. Ballou, advising colored officers and men at Camp Funston, Kansas, not to "go where they were not wanted" irrespective of their rights as men and citizens, on the ground that to attempt to enter places of public recreation, etc., would encourage race prejudice and be pre-

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\*Even if (for the sake of argument) it be assumed that "State laws" should be determining, there are Supreme Court decisions denying to the states the right to interfere with *interstate* passengers, which these men were. Further, in refusing Pullman service, *equal accommodations* were denied and all Supreme Court decisions affirming the constitutionality of "separate coach" laws have based such decisions upon the ground that separation of the races is not a denial of rights guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment, *provided there be equality of accommodations*. Taking things as they are, here was enough warrant for affirmative action to procure "equal accommodations" for colored officers and soldiers *under the law* as expounded by the highest court of the land.



judicial to the "good of the service."\* This protest, added to, as it was, by a wide-spread denunciation of the order by the colored press and organizations of colored people, including some of the N. A. A. C. P. branches, did not result in formal action by the War Department, but it was effective in directing attention to the matter and in general unofficial condemnation of the obnoxious order by War Department officials.

### **Students' Army Training Corps Trouble**

In September, successful protests in person by the National Secretary of the Association to the War Department's representative, Special Assistant to the Secretary of War, Mr. Emmet J. Scott, and by letter and telegraph, followed by press publicity, were made against the action of a regional director of the training and instruction branch of the Committee on Education and Special Training of the War Department, in ruling that residential segregation of colored students in the Students' Army Training Corps was required by army regulations and that, as a consequence, Ohio and West Virginia students could not be admitted to general college training courses, but must go to distinctly colored colleges.† Prompt repudiation of this order was made by the War Department.

### **Case of Colonel Young**

The Executive Office was in fairly constant personal touch with the War Department in efforts to secure the assignment

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\*In justice to General Ballou it is to be said that he caused suit to be brought against the offending theatre manager whose debarring of a colored officer was the occasion for the issuance of the order. This rightful action, however, does not excuse the General from criticism on account of the order itself.

†Prompt and energetic action was taken locally in this matter by the Association's branches at Cleveland, Cincinnati, Columbus, and Oberlin, Ohio, to whom great credit is due for their vigilance and tact in dealing with the various officials concerned.

to active service of Colonel Charles Young, an able and efficient officer who had rendered notable service over a long period of years to the army and who had been honored by the Spingarn Medal Award Committee, in that he was the Spingarn medallist of 1916, and is a director of the Association. Colonel Young's claims were presented by the National Secretary and by members of the National Board of Directors to Secretary Baker on more than one occasion. The Association rejoices in the recent, although tardy, recognition of Colonel Young's usefulness in his assignment to Camp Grant at Rockford, Illinois.\*

Representations were made to the Secretary of War, also, on occasions, concerning the desires of the Association and the colored people that no undue proportion of colored draftees be assigned to non-combatant, as distinguished from combatant, service. In these matters Secretary Baker was sympathetic and gave attention to our representations.

### **Colored Nurses Not Wanted Abroad—Or At Home**

The long drawn out controversy regarding the acceptance of colored nurses by the Red Cross and the Army, and of physicians and dentists for professional service by the latter, and participated in quite generally by colored people, their sympathizers and the colored press, was only partially satisfactory in its final stage of adjustment when the armistice was signed. As is well known, Surgeon General Gorgas was regarded as hostile, or, at least, unsympathetic, to the claims of colored professional workers and enlisted and commissioned men and women. The assignments of colored nurses to a few army camps in this country and their exclusion from overseas service, was, and is, regarded as an unsatisfactory recognition of the willingness and earnest desire of these devoted

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\*Colonel Young was assigned to duty at Camp Grant in November, 1918.

women to serve the men of their race, or for that matter, of any race, in the war region. The reason for their rejection for over-seas service was evidently one of social, and not strictly military import, as emphasis was laid upon the lack of living accommodations abroad for colored women nurses—segregated accommodations were meant, of course.

### Physicians and Dentists

In the matter of colored physicians and dentists, there was a refusal to assign such men to service as professional workers in the light of their fitness for professional service, *per se*. Complaints were made of doctors and dentists who had been unable to enlist for professional service, even when appeals were being made for medical and dental men, afterward being drafted and assigned as privates in the draft army.

The Surgeon General decided, as is shown in the following letter received by the editor of *The Crisis*, that colored medical officers would not be assigned to any regiments unless the line officers of such regiments were colored officers, thus drawing the "color line" in the case of the health of soldiers as well as elsewhere in the fighting force:

"Oct. 3, 1918"

"My dear Mr. Du Bois:

In reply to your letter of Sept. 27, the Surgeon-General directs me to say that colored medical officers have been assigned to all colored organizations supplied with colored line officers. Colored medical officers will not be assigned to units in which the other officers of the organization are white.

Yours truly,

(Signed) R. B. MILLER,  
Colonel Medical Corps, U. S. A."

Hardly a week passed in which the National Office did not receive complaints regarding the treatment of colored soldiers or their status at the various camps. These complaints ranged all the way from matters of apparently trivial

nature to alleged serious abuses. Sympathetic, but critical, attention was given to all the complaints and appropriate action taken. In many cases the matters complained of were placed before the War Department and were dealt with in the first instance, at least, by special assistant, Mr. Scott, whose co-operation and attention to the interests of colored petitioners was always, we believe, sympathetic, and in many cases abuses were corrected.

Efforts, which would have succeeded, were made, at the request of officers of the army, to assist in securing an efficient personnel of men with special qualifications for artillery service, but, owing to the policy of the War Department on this matter, our efforts were not as fruitful as they could have been.

### **Effort to Insure that Colored Soldiers in Camps Could Vote**

Late in October, interviews were obtained by the National Secretary and the president of the District of Columbia Branch with high officials of the War Department, at which were presented the apprehensions of the Association that certain state commissions to supervise in the training camps the voting of soldiers from their states, might not be scrupulous in seeing to it that all colored (soldier) voters from their states would be afforded the opportunity to vote. Following a failure to persuade Secretary Baker to issue a general order instructing camp commandants to report to the War Department the names of the several state commissions which might visit the camps, the date of such visits and the particular units voting, an appeal was addressed to the President asking that he take steps to safeguard the voting rights of colored soldiers on the ground that previous experience warranted the Association in its apprehensions that they might not be accorded that right by some of the state commissions and that, since the President had appealed to voters to sup-

port candidates of the Democratic Party, there seemed to the Association to rest upon him a specific responsibility to see that no qualified voter was denied the right to cast a ballot and, further, that—as the election officials about whom we were apprehensive, were members of the Democratic Party, there was an especial reason for the President's attention to the matter. No action of which the Association was informed was taken by the President.

## IV

### FIGHTING THE COLOR LINE

#### *Employment*

Despite the greatly increased opportunities for employment, the Executive Office has continued to receive considerable numbers of complaints of employment discriminations, largely on work conducted for or by the government and in federal departments. Many of these concerned the departments at Washington. The District of Columbia Branch is the Association's most effective means of dealing with complaints affecting federal departments at Washington, although in some cases such matters have been handled directly by the Executive Office.\*

It is the belief of the District of Columbia Branch, based upon experience and upon proof, that is is the settled policy at present of many of the heads of federal departments to discriminate against colored people wherever possible. The policy of the civil service commission in requiring photographs of applicants permits of color discrimination in an easy way and is so used by many of the Departments. A number of cases could be cited where persons who had successfully passed civil service examinations had been directed, often by telegraph, to report for duty, only to be informed, when they did appear, that an error had been made and that there were no vacancies. That errors in such cases had been made, the Association is convinced, but the "errors" were on the part of clerks in the office of the appointing power, who had failed

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\*Special acknowledgment is due Mr. Archibald H. Grimké, President of that Branch for unfailing attention to numerous matters sent him for attention, many of which were complaints and inquiries from individuals and branches in various parts of the country.



to learn that the persons so urgently needed to "win the war" were colored, and, therefore, not so urgently needed as had been supposed when it was believed they were white.

A few cases are cited to illustrate the results of the Association's efforts in fighting employment discriminations.\*

### **An Airplane Plant**

Complaint that the Curtiss Airplane Company of Buffalo, New York, was discriminating against colored girls was made by the Buffalo Branch. After much negotiation with the Department of Labor, principally through the new Bureau of Negro Economics, this discrimination was abolished.

### **Railroad Color Line Fought**

An order issued in November by Regional Director of Railroads (for the North Western District) Aishton, advising the heads of operating companies to refrain from employing colored men as switchmen, firemen, hostlers, etc., or in any positions in which they had not theretofore been employed, was protested to Director General McAdoo and through press publicity, with the result that this order was withdrawn. The occasion for its issuance in the first instance was said to be the refusal of white union employees to work with colored men. As the railroad unions in the operating branch of the service do not admit colored men to membership, it is evident that the refusal to work with colored men may be attributed to race, and not to mere anti-union, discrimination.

### **Union Discrimination**

In a case involving five colored bricklayers, members of a trade union, hired through a United States employment

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\*The Association's activities and experience in this field of effort, and in regard to color discrimination generally, would fill many pages of text, if recited in detail.

bureau at Cleveland, Ohio, and sent to Sheffield, Alabama, where their fellow unionists refused to work with them, because of their color, the Association succeeded only in establishing the facts and getting comprehensive statements from all concerned. The case was presented to the employers, to the International union affected, through the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor and to the United States Department of Labor. This complaint was presented to the Executive Office by the Cleveland Branch, which also endeavored to press the matter locally.

### *Other Than Employment*

#### **Hospital Care Secured—Intimidation Checked**

Illustrations of successful efforts to overcome discrimination against colored people in fields other than employment, are shown in the following two cases: the first of successful efforts to secure the admission of colored people to the State Tuberculosis Sanatorium of Wisconsin, after the superintendent had given an unsatisfactory reason for their exclusion; the second that of the Treasury Department's action in correcting the bad habits of intimidation of a Louisiana War Savings Stamp Committee, whose Chairman had threatened "to use force to make Negroes buy more War Savings Stamps." In both cases press publicity was resorted to to secure results. In the latter state, and in the immediate district of the offending committee's activities, a colored man (David H. Raines of Vivian, La.) was the largest individual buyer in the Fourth Liberty Loan, having purchased \$100,000 worth of bonds, the purchase having been called to the personal attention of President Wilson by the local Liberty Loan Chairman.

Incidental to the tuberculosis sanatorium case, the interest of the National Tuberculosis Association was enlisted to the



extent that they have undertaken a survey of the provisions for the care of colored tuberculosis patients throughout the United States, a project which has been under way for some time and the results of which, we expect, will before long be available.

### **Attempts to Secure Redress—Efforts Failed**

Typical of instances in which the Association's efforts have borne no fruit, although the case is an extremely outrageous one, is the case of an estimable Negro physician of Vicksburg, Mississippi, upon whom a demand was made in June by the local and State War Savings Committees to purchase \$1,000 worth of war savings stamps, and in which case, after the physician's refusal, on the ground that he could not afford so large a purchase, he was at first arrested, "to protect him," it was said, and afterwards tarred and feathered and driven from the city, the tarring and feathering being done, it was claimed, and evidence submitted to substantiate the claim, at the order of leading citizens and officials of the city.

Two other prominent colored men of the city were driven out at the same time, the real offense of these men being, it was contended in their behalf, that they had been leaders in efforts made by the colored people of the city to prevent two notorious colored women, mistresses of politicians, from being appointed as teachers in the colored schools. Added to this, was the further fact that they had endeavored to protect some of the first colored soldiers to appear on the streets of Vicksburg from having their uniforms torn from their backs, as was threatened.

The Association's efforts in these cases extended to appeals to the mayor, to the United States Attorney General, and to the Department of the Treasury. In the case of the latter, the reply of a Treasury official to our inquiry concerning the

first-mentioned victim, was that they had inquired of the State Chairman of the War Stamp Savings Committee (one of those complained of, by the way) and he had assured them that there was no ground for complaint, the Treasury official adding that Mr. McAdoo had full confidence in the above-mentioned chairman. Our readers may be left to their own conclusions.

In the case of one of the men, a druggist, he was compelled to sell his property at what he said was one-fourth of its value, whereupon he was transferred by the local draft board from class four to class one and immediately inducted into military service upon the ground, that, having disposed of his business, there was sufficient money in his possession from the proceeds to maintain his wife and child during the period of the war. The War Department's reply to the druggist when he protested at the action of the draft board, was that *"the fact that registrant had some difficulty with a few people at Vicksburg has no bearing upon the case in so far as the selective service officials are concerned."* The Executive Office did not pursue this matter further with the War Department because the armistice was signed at about the time it could have been handled.

### Campaign Against the "Birth of a Nation"

The National Office and the branches have been active at various times throughout the year in efforts to prevent the vicious motion picture play, "The Birth of a Nation" from being shown. Objected to, and suppressed on occasion in one place or another, this menace to harmonious relations between the races would bob up every week or two in a new place. In October the National Office addressed letters to the Governors of all the states and to the state Councils of Defense, asking that they use the power of their offices to prevent the play being shown. Its thoroughly vicious character was

pointed out as strongly and as truthfully as the National Office could phrase its opinion of the film's harmful effects on national morale. This national campaign against the picture play was featured in the *Branch Bulletin* for November and the cooperation of the branches solicited. A press story on the matter was sent out widely.

Governor James M. Cox of Ohio had secured the film's withdrawal from Ohio during the war. After the armistice was signed, when it again appeared, the National Office, at the request of certain Ohio branches, induced Governor Cox to act in the same manner as before. The film was once more withdrawn from Ohio. The West Virginia Council of Defence suppressed it in that state. It was suppressed in Kansas. Similar action was taken, in some cases by voluntary action, and more often on account of legal action, in California, North Carolina, Kentucky and Alaska. Favorable replies were received from other governors and Councils of Defense, promising action should the film appear in their states.

## V

### EDUCATIONAL AND PUBLICITY WORK

#### Distribution of Literature

Approximately 130,000 pieces of literature, aside from the circulation of the *Crisis* magazine, have been distributed through the branches and sent direct to readers through the National Office, the great bulk of them, however, being distributed by the branches.\*

Fifty-seven hundred copies have been distributed of President Storey's notable address to the Wisconsin Bar Association in June on "The Negro Question." This address is receiving wide-spread attention and much favorable comment.†

Among other pamphlets printed and distributed were reprints of the Field Secretary's address at the National Conference of Social Work in Kansas City, Mo., on "The Changing Status of Negro Labor;" reprints from the *Public* of an article on the "Negro in War-Time" by Bolton Smith of Memphis, Tennessee, and a reply to the same by the Field Secretary; "How the N. A. A. C. P. Began" and "Short History of the N. A. A. C. P.," both by Mary White Ovington; "Lynchings of May, 1918, in Brooks and Lowndes Counties, Georgia," reprinted from the *Crisis*, and a large edition for use in branch membership campaigns of a small folder summarizing in single sentence form the principal achievements and purposes of the Association and entitled "The Why and Wherefore of the N. A. A. C. P."

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\*A full list of pamphlet publications of the Association may be found on pages 93-94.

†Up to January 15, 1919, 17,500 copies have been ordered from the printers. The number given were distributed during 1918.

## Branch Bulletin

The *Branch Bulletin*, initiated in December, 1916, as a medium of communication between the National Office and the branches, has been published monthly throughout the year, except that one month's issue was omitted and a double number printed the following month. Reports from the branches of what they are doing month by month appear in the *Bulletin*, as do important matters which the National Office wishes to bring to the attention of the branches. Items of information, advice and suggestion to the branches of a more intimate character than would be practical for use in *The Crisis*, as a magazine of general circulation, are reserved for the *Bulletin*. About 20,000 copies of the *Bulletin* were distributed in 1918.

A subscription price of 50 cents a year has been placed on the *Bulletin*, except that in lots of twelve, subscriptions are received from branches for the use of branch officers and executive committees at twenty-five cents a year. An endeavor will be made to secure second class postage rates, in which case it may be possible to reduce the subscription price of the *Bulletin* to the latter figure for all members of the Association and to send it free to all who pay more than a certain minimum membership fee, if consistent with postal regulations.

## Press Publicity

Special efforts were made to secure newspaper publicity for the work of the Association during the year with gratifying results. A regular press service was established. Not alone in our Anti-Lynching campaign, but generally, press stories were released from time to time upon many matters with intent to bring to the aid of the Association's cause in each particular instance, and in general, the power and pressure of



newspaper publicity. In a number of instances press stories were telegraphed directly to local newspapers to affect a given situation. Copies of all press releases were mailed to branch secretaries for their information and for the information of the branch members when read or reviewed at branch meetings. The value of this feature of our work cannot be precisely estimated, but it is safe to say that it is very great.

Forty "press stories" on lynching matters have been sent out during the year, as was mentioned earlier in these pages, and thirty-five such "stories" on subjects other than lynching, making seventy-five in all.

It is especially gratifying to be able to record the fact that, despite its pressure of war news and comment, an unusual number of favorable editorials appeared as a direct result of the Association's publicity. Added to these were a number of editorials in what may be regarded as "unfriendly" papers, which, while not publishing the "news" items sent them, showed the effect of the action we had taken. The response from the colored press was, as might be expected, cordial and appreciative. For such support the Association, in the name of its members and of colored people generally, expresses its deep appreciation.

### **Addresses and Conferences**

The Association has been represented on the platform by the Secretary, Field Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Acting Chairman, District Organizer, and by occasional addresses by members of the Board of Directors, notably by Mr. Oswald Garrison Villard and Mrs. Mary B. Talbert.

The Secretary represented the Association at the Great Lakes District Conference of the N. A. A. C. P., held at Springfield, Ohio, in May, at the Conference on Demobilization and the Responsibilities of Social Agencies held at New York in November, in which he was a member of the organi-

zing committee, and at a conference of workers of the National League on Urban Conditions Among Negroes, held at Columbus, Ohio, in November, and at which he made two addresses.

The Field Secretary attended and was a speaker at one of the principal sessions of the National Conference of Social Work held at Kansas City, Mo., in May.

### Addresses

The following number of addresses (239 in all) were made in 24 states and the District of Columbia during 1918 by members of the staff and Board of Directors:

States	Mr. Shillady	Mr. Johnson	Mr. White	Miss Ovington	Mr. Villard	Mrs. Talbert	Mr. Bagnall
California.....	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Colorado.....	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
Connecticut....	1	1	1	..	..	..	..
District of Col..	5	1	1	..	..	..	..
Florida.....	..	4	1	..	..	..	..
Georgia.....	..	2	7	..	..	..	..
Illinois.....	3	9	..	3	..	..	..
Indiana.....	..	4	..	..	..	..	..
Iowa.....	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
Kansas.....	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Kentucky.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Louisiana.....	..	..	1	..	1	14	..
Maryland.....	1	4	..	..	..	..	..
Massachusetts...	3	6	..	1	..	..	..
Michigan.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Minnesota.....	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
Missouri.....	..	22	..	..	..	..	..
Nebraska.....	..	..	..	4	..	..	..
New Jersey.....	1	4	5	..	..	..	..
New York.....	13	11	..	..	..	..	..
Ohio.....	9	7	..	..	1	..	5
Pennsylvania....	..	14	2	..	..	..	..
Rhode Island....	2	1	..	1	..	..	..
Tennessee.....	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Texas.....	..	..	..	..	..	43	..
	41	91	18	18	3	57	11

*Travel*

Staff and Board members traveled the following number of miles on Association business during the year:

Mr. Shillady.....	11,012 miles
Mr. Johnson.....	8,842 miles
Mr. White.....	12,579 miles
Miss Ovington.....	4,495 miles
Mrs. Talbert.....	7,162 miles
Mr. Bagnall.....	1,782 miles
Total.....	45,872 miles

In addition to the above named, Mrs. Lizzie B. Fouse of Lexington, Kentucky, represented the Association in behalf of the Fourth Liberty Loan in Kentucky, and Mrs. Ruth S. Bennett in North Carolina, traveling 1,814 miles on that account.

### Report of the Director of Publications and Research and Editor of "The Crisis"\*

#### The Crisis

The cash income of *The Crisis* for the year 1918 was \$57,367.02 as compared with \$33,440.86 during 1917. The total number of copies sold was 902,250 as compared with 495,477 during 1917.

Month	Copies Published	Copies Sold	Income
January.....	56,000	55,850	\$4,201.30
February.....	68,000	64,500	3,825.90
March.....	75,000	69,500	4,476.49
April.....	100,000	75,000	4,258.19
May.....	80,000	75,500	5,536.30
June.....	80,000	79,000	4,932.86
July.....	80,000	79,900	5,108.64
August.....	80,000	80,000	4,670.57
September.....	82,000	80,500	4,156.82
October.....	82,000	81,200	5,553.58
November.....	80,000	79,800	4,878.21
December.....	82,000	82,000	5,768.16

\*The report of the Director of Publications and Research (who is the editor of *The Crisis*), is inserted here, under the general heading of *Educational and Publicity Work*, to maintain a continuity of narrative. In office administration, Dr. DuBois' work constitutes a separate department of the N. A. A. C. P.



The average monthly net-paid circulation of *The Crisis* for 1918 was 75,187 copies as compared with 41,289 copies during 1917.

By calendar years the average monthly net-paid circulation of *The Crisis* has been as follows:

1910 (2 months).....	1,750 copies
1911.....	9,000 copies
1912.....	22,000 copies
1913.....	27,000 copies
1914.....	31,450 copies
1915.....	32,156 copies
1916.....	37,625 copies
1917.....	41,289 copies
1918.....	75,187 copies

The total income of *The Crisis* since its inception November, 1910, has been \$204,288.02.

The total net-paid circulation of *The Crisis* by years since November, 1910, has been 3,323,999 copies, as follows:

Year	Income (Round Numbers)	Circulation
1910 (2 months).....	\$375	3,500
1911.....	6,572	108,000
1912.....	13,217	264,000
1913.....	19,739	336,000
1914.....	22,124	377,400
1915.....	23,865	385,872
1916.....	28,193	451,500
1917.....	32,836	495,477
1918.....	57,367	902,250

In January, 1916, *The Crisis* became self-supporting. It pays all items of its cost, including publishing, rent, light, heat, etc., and the salaries of the Editor, Business Manager and nine clerks.

*The Crisis* circulates in every state in the Union, in all the insular possessions of the United States and in most of the foreign countries. Its circulation in Africa is of especial in-

terest and encouragement. *The Crisis* has a force of over 1,000 agents.

Because of the uncertainty of the paper market and the restrictions of the War Industries Board the plan to enlarge *The Crisis* to sixty-four pages and cover and to increase its price from ten to fifteen cents per single copy and from one dollar to one dollar and fifty cents yearly subscription had to be abandoned. It is hoped, however, that this plan may be carried out later.

The price of advertisements in *The Crisis* has been increased from \$32 per inside page to \$64 per inside page; the cover pages have been increased in like proportion.

### General Activities

During the month of March of the past year the Director lectured in Harrisburg, Pa.; Dayton, Ohio; Youngstown, Ohio; Detroit, Mich.; Syracuse, N. Y.; and at Vassar College. In April he lectured at Chester, West Chester and Cheyney, Pa.; during the month of May he delivered twenty-four lectures in Virginia, West Virginia and North Carolina. The audiences at these lectures totalled 18,000 persons.

A meeting was called at *The Crisis* office during August, 1918, which resulted in the formation of the Negro Co-operative Guild. The Director was elected chairman. Other officers are a secretary and six state secretaries. Literature on Consumers' Co-operation is being sent broadcast and a study is being made of this movement.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in October last, appointed the Director chairman of the Tercentenary Committee, to commemorate the landing of the Negro race at Jamestown, Va., August, 1619, with Mr. James Weldon Johnson secretary, and Dr. H. C. Bishop. At the invitation of this committee a dinner conference was held at New York City, October 19, which was attended by twenty-five prominent Negroes. The Conference was or-

ganized and Mme. C. J. Walker was elected treasurer, in addition to the members of the committee appointed by the N. A. A. C. P.

As told in the January, 1919, issue of *The Crisis*:

"Dr. W. E. B. DuBois sailed for France, December 1, on the United States transport ORIZABA. The ORIZABA made a special trip to carry the accredited correspondents of American newspapers and magazines, who will report the Peace Conference.

"Dr. Du Bois goes in a three-fold capacity; he goes as special representative of *The Crisis* at the Peace Conference; to collect first-hand material to go into a History of the American Negro in the Great War; and finally as the representative of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, for the purpose of bringing to bear all pressure possible on the delegates at the Peace Table in the interest of the colored people of the United States and of the world.

"As the representative of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Dr. DuBois will summon a Pan-African Congress, to meet in Paris, to press the question of internationalization of the former German colonies. He has for some time been making a study of this question; his views on the subject are printed in the January, 1919, issue of *The Crisis*.

"A conference held to consider the disposition of the former German colonies in Africa will serve, perhaps, better than any other means that could be taken to focus the attention of the peace delegates and the civilized world on the just claims of the Negro everywhere. Dr. DuBois is pre-eminently fitted to call such a conference, because of the experience he gained and the connections he formed at the Races' Congress in London, in 1911, to which he was a delegate."

**“THE CRISIS” REVENUE AND EXPENSE ACCOUNT**

For the year ending December 31, 1918

EXPENSES		REVENUE	
Publishing.....	\$27,570.23	Sales.....	\$35,943.17
Salaries.....	14,360.50	Subscriptions.....	16,152.98
General Expense.....	5,481.55	Advertising.....	5,671.74
Postage.....	4,559.60	Profit on Books.....	1,152.42
Stationery and Supplies...	1,901.11		
European Trip.....	750.00		
Bad Debts.....	611.37		
Depreciation on Furniture.	137.59		
	<hr/>		
	\$55,371.93		
Net Profit.....	3,548.38		
	<hr/>		
	\$58,920.31		<hr/>
			\$58,920.31

**BALANCE SHEET**

December 31, 1918

ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
Cash in Bank.....	\$1,838.39	N. A. A. C. P. (Special).	\$750.00
Petty Cash Fund.....	25.00		
Accounts Receivable:			
Advertisements.	2,264.97		
Agents.....	4,369.46		
Books.....	96.54		
N. A. A. C. P....	145.30		
W. E. B. D.....	7.01		
	<hr/>		
	6,883.28		
Deposited with P. O....	225.00		
Books.....	262.74		
Printing (advance).....	1,036.16		
Furniture.....	2,614.13		
	<hr/>	NET WORTH.....	12,134.70
	\$12,884.70		<hr/>
			\$12,884.770

GENTLEMEN:

Herewith I hand you Revenue and expense account for the year 1918 and Balance Sheet as of December 31st, 1918, as drawn by me from your ledger. I have independently verified the amount of Cash in the Bank.

Respectfully submitted

F. J. BATCHELDER, C, P. A.

## VI

### LEGISLATIVE WORK AND INVESTIGATIONS

#### **Strengthening the New York Civil Rights Law**

An amendment to the New York Civil Rights Law, prepared by the legal committee of the National Board, and introduced into the legislature by Assemblyman E. A. Johnson, New York's only colored member, was passed by the legislature and signed by the governor, becoming a law, April 13, 1918. This law has become a model for which the Association's branches in other states are striving and which has been embodied in drafts put before the legislatures (in 1919) of Connecticut, Ohio, Pennsylvania and New Mexico.

#### **Investigations**

##### *"Work or Fight" in the South*

In addition to investigations of lynchings, which are referred to under that heading, the Assistant Secretary completed a survey of the administration of compulsory work laws and of so-called "work or fight" regulations in several of the Southern States. This investigation disclosed abuses, affecting colored women as well as men.\* A few of these abuses of which the Association's branches took cognizance are alluded to later in this report under "Work of the Association's Branches—Labor."

While this investigation was in progress the Executive Office succeeded in stopping what was believed to be an effort to

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\*An article on this subject, contributed to *The New Republic* of March 1, 1919, "*Work or Fight, in the South,*" has been reprinted under that title.

conscript women's labor by ordinance in Memphis, Tennessee, by judicious use of publicity and through telegrams to the Memphis War Work Committee, an organization of the larger employers, which was promoting the movement; to the mayor and to the United States Secretary of Labor, all of which telegrams were repeated to the press at Memphis. It was stated by the Memphis committee that there was no intention of forcing women to carry "work cards." The text of advertisements in Memphis papers clearly gave the impression that such was the intention, an impression shared by many leading colored men of the city.

Similar efforts were made (which were successful), to nip in the bud an incipient movement to force colored women to work in the cotton fields at Pine Bluff, Arkansas, at wages below the standard rate, an effort which was accompanied by an organized opposition campaign of colored people of the neighborhood, stimulated, as is mentioned on page 63, by our Little Rock, Arkansas Branch, following a telegram from the Executive Office. As one result in the latter case, there now is a branch of the Association at Pine Bluff.



## VII

### WORK OF THE ASSOCIATION'S BRANCHES

Meeting monthly in many cases, the rapidly increasing number of Association branches have maintained a keen local, as well as national, interest in the movement to which the Association is dedicated. The officers of the branches, all volunteers, receive no compensation for their efforts, and devote themselves to the work in such leisure time as can be spared from bread-winning.

That so much is given in such splendid spirit speaks well for the ultimate success of the cause of justice to the colored race. We summarize topically below the principal activities of the branches. In addition to the achievements specified, many of the branches carried out an educational program dealing with public questions of special interest to colored people. All of them enlist in the work of adding to the Association's membership and support, of which fact this year's growth bears conclusive testimony.

#### **Labor**

With the cessation of immigration, incident upon the European War, hundreds of thousands of colored men and women entered upon new employment. This was not accomplished without many a battle. In Charleston, S. C., the Navy Yard needed women workers, but did not want to employ colored. The Branch, aided by the President of the District of Columbia Branch, succeeded in getting about 250 colored women into the Yard, in jobs which they have held satisfactorily. At San Antonio, Texas, the Branch, under its able

executive, secured employment for three hundred colored women at the Reclamation Station. At Memphis and Louisville, colored women were put at over-rough, disgusting tasks by the military authorities. The Branches had them removed and better work assigned them. The Buffalo, N. Y., Branch itself fought locally and through its Congressman the refusal of an air-plane plant to employ colored girls, to the successful conclusion of which allusion has already been made (page 45).

Cleveland and Detroit were confronted with a great influx of southern labor into workshops and factories, and their Branches investigated conditions and did much to improve them. The colored workers have had their bouts with union labor. National headquarters has handled more than one case. At Charleston, W. Va., the Branch acting alone, successfully reinstated two colored plumbers with whom the white workmen refused to work.

The Boston, Mass., Branch championed the cause of a young colored girl who was being mistreated by her employers, succeeded in removing her from them, despite threats of legal action, and placing her in satisfactory employment elsewhere.

Combating civil service discriminations, the Detroit Branch succeeded in getting a colored woman postal clerk into the position to which her examinations entitled her. Danville, Va., saw to it that a Negro who had five times successfully passed his examination as letter carrier secured his position. But the bulk of this civil service work falls on the District of Columbia Branch. Washington is the center for government jobs. One time it is the case of a colored typist who is refused a registration card. The Branch sees that she is registered. Again a stenographer, summoned from a distant state, appears at the appointed place and because she is colored is told that she is not wanted. The Branch has her



receive her appointment. All cases do not turn out so favorably as these, but the President of the Branch and his able Executive Committee (a committee that meets every Saturday afternoon throughout the year) see to it that cases are protested and that discrimination does not pass unchallenged.

Our Southern Branches have been confronted with a new reading of the "work or fight" order making it applicable to anyone whom an employer wants to keep or to get at a low wage! A hairdresser must drop her trade and do her white neighbor's washing. This is reported by the Montgomery, Ala., Branch to the State Council of Defense and the fine is remitted. A woman, in Augusta, Ga., is arrested for leaving domestic service to go into a better job, but when she comes before the court her case is dismissed, since the judge sees the room filled with influential, respected colored N. A. A. C. P. members. Little Rock, Ark., reports and gets action against the efforts of the cotton planters to keep women at a low wage in the fields. And the Atlanta, Ga., Branch after a vigorous fight, keeps the newly enacted compulsory work law from being applied in its state to women.

## **Education**

For thirty-two years the anomalous situation has existed at Charleston, S. C., of colored children, not permitted to associate at school with white children, and yet taught by white teachers—teachers who never failed to let the children know they felt themselves their superiors. The Charleston colored people have long protested against this, and the Branch backed by the Branch at Columbia, the state capital, was especially active this year. In consequence, the *March Crisis* carried the news that the white teachers are to go out and the colored teachers to come into the colored schools.

Charleston, W. Va., the capital of the state, has the immense

advantage of having three colored men in the state legislature. Through their influence, with the active, energetic support of the Branch, much more money than formerly has been appropriated for colored state schools, and especially, provision has been made for an adequate building for the colored deaf and dumb children. In the District of Columbia, the Branch, under the chairman of the education committee, expects to secure a fairer distribution of the city's funds than formerly.

There are many branches that find they must be on the alert to prevent some form of segregation in the public schools. This reached even as far north as Hartford, Conn., where the Branch came into existence in a spirited and successful protest against the placing of colored children recently arrived from the South in classes by themselves. The same is true of Moline, Ill. Ypsilanti, Mich., wakes up to find that it has a separate school, forms a branch and has an injunction issued to see that the school is closed.

## Legislation

The next few years should see considerable legislation favorable to the Negro. The recent coming together of the Texas branches, all only a few months old, to petition the governor to push an Anti-Lynching bill for the state\* is a sign of the power the Negro will wield. Not the power that works for personal, political gain, but the strength of united public opinion. Where the Negro has the vote we are beginning to have colored members of the legislature. Our Branch on the Isthmus of Panama reports to us that a Negro has been reappointed judge in the Canal Zone. Houston, Texas, secured the right of colored women to register in the primaries.

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\*See page 23.

### Jim-Crowing

In our northern and western cities, where the Negro is a voter, he must nevertheless be on the alert lest his rights be curtailed by those white people whose superiority consists in making other people uncomfortable. From Ohio, through its Cleveland, Toledo and Lorain branches, we learn that signs proclaiming that colored people will not be admitted to certain restaurants have been removed. The same news comes from Lincoln, Neb., Mercer County, Pa., Philadelphia (where theatres are also convinced it is best to stop segregation), Moline, Ill., and Santa Monica Bay, Cal. The Wilmington, Del., Branch is working against segregation in the court-room, while Denver has objectionable signs removed from the city's tennis courts. San Antonio, Texas, reports that it has secured better accommodations for the traveling colored public on the railroads in and out of its city; and Columbus, Ohio, is investigating the occasional Jim-Crowing of passengers between that city and Cincinnati.

A most important Jim-Crow case has been tried and reported by the Baltimore Branch. Dr. Julia B. Coleman, a colored woman physician, brought suit against the W. B. and A. Railway Company for attempting to segregate her. The case was tried by Mr. W. Ashbie Hawkins and a judgment of one cent and damages and cost was rendered. The case was appealed and the judge assessed the damages at twenty dollars. Mr. Hawkins writes: "I think the road is not enforcing the regulation now *except with such persons as it feels will not give trouble.*"

### Criminal Cases

To report the branch cases where colored men or women have been beaten up, or killed, by policemen; where they have been convicted of crime on what has seemed to the unprejudiced onlooker insufficient and prejudiced evidence

would take many pages. Cases have come to us from Lynchburg, Va., Oklahoma, Raleigh, N. C., Newark, N. J., Fort Worth, Texas, Kansas City, Kan., Bakersfield, Cal. The dramatic criminal N. A. A. C. P. case of 1918, ably handled by the Boston Branch, was that of John Johnson, accused of a crime in West Virginia, who fled to Boston. Governor McCall refused to send him back to West Virginia, on the grounds that he would not get a fair trial in his state. Witnesses were brought from Charleston, W. Va., and after a trial that lasted eighteen days extradition was refused.

San Antonio, Texas, reported a case where damages were secured from a white man who struck a colored woman; and again a colored man whipped a white man for insulting his daughter, and was protected by the sheriff. Too often, however, where the white man is guilty, the justice meted out is similar to that of a case reported from Charleston, S. C., where a father appeared against a white man charged with raping his ten-year-old daughter. The grand jury did not even examine all the witnesses, but at once brought in a bill of "No case."

### **"The Birth of a Nation."\***

The activity of the Branches has prevented the performance of this photoplay at Louisville, Ky., at Gary, Ind., and has again stopped it when a performance was attempted in Ohio. At Lincoln, Neb., and Springfield, Mo., objectionable features were removed. The Governor of the State of Pennsylvania in a letter to the Harrisburg Branch, which with Philadelphia, Washington and Newcastle, has worked to have the film stopped throughout the state, says that he considers the play an outrage against one of Pennsylvania's greatest statesmen, Thaddeus Stevens.

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\*General reference to the nation-wide efforts against this photoplay have been made in an earlier part of this report.

Another photo-play, "Free and Equal," had an objectionable Negro feature and owing to the energy of the branches at Los Angeles and Washington, Pa., that part was eliminated.

### **The Army—Social Service**

The Ohio Branches acted energetically in the attempted Student Training Corps discrimination, of which mention has been made heretofore. At Ohio State University when the students were drawn up for drill, an order came for the Negroes to fall out. It was then explained to them by their Major that they would have to go to colored colleges for their training. The Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Oberlin, Ohio, Branches made immediate protest on the ground and to Washington, reporting the circumstances to National Headquarters. Something of the same sort happened at Nebraska, where the Lincoln Branch was active. The Philadelphia Branch through its president worked assiduously to prevent segregation at mess among the white and colored workers at the shipyards at Hog and League Islands. Branch members were very active in the Y. M. C. A., Red Cross work, and gave generously to the Liberty Loans and the several allied drives. The Boston, Mass., Branch collected money for a Soldiers' Rest House, open to both races, reported by the War Department to be one of the best in the country. This Branch was represented on the Massachusetts Committee on Public Safety by its secretary, who was also Executive Chairman of the Commonwealth Fourth Liberty Loan Committee (among colored people), chairman of a board of draft appeal agents, serving during the war, a member of the executive committees "to welcome home returning soldiers and sailors" and of the Federal Board of Management for Returning Soldiers and Sailors. The President of the San Antonio, Texas, Branch gave \$5,000 for a Rest House. The Boston Branch secured redress for a soldier who was abused by a



superior officer, the case resulting in a general order prohibiting epithets. It also secured an army order allowing five physicians who were inducted into the service as privates to be given the choice of commissions and details to training camps or to be returned at once to civil life.

Apart from war work we hear of the Hartford, Conn., Branch starting classes for the children of southern immigrants; of Toledo planning a field day for the colored children of the city, and Christmas festivities for those who without their help would have had none; and of Atlanta, Ga., turning to its civic tasks and rooting out dives and "blind tigers."

### Censoring the Press

The branches keep up a steady censorship of the press. Objectionable articles are not allowed to pass unchallenged; news letters insulting the colored man are answered. The Branches are insisting that the word *Negro*, as long as it is to be used at all, shall be used as the name of a race and, therefore, capitalized. And while the press is censored, the Association's organ is brought before the people. Many public libraries have been presented by their N. A. A. C. P. Branches with *The Crisis*. New Orleans, La., boasts a weekly news-sheet published by the Branch.

## VIII

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### Spingarn Medal Award

The fourth annual Spingarn medal presentation was made at Providence, Rhode Island, May 3, to William Stanley Beaumont Braithwaite, of Cambridge, Mass., the presentation being made by Governor R. Livingston Beeckman of Rhode Island. The following extracts from a letter written by the donor of the medal, Major Joel E. Spingarn, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Association, to be read at the presentation, indicates the purpose for which this token has been given annually by Major Spingarn for the past four successive years:

. . . The medal itself is the merest trifle, but the achievement which it points to and emphasizes from year to year should encourage America in her new and growing faith in one of the finest and yet least appreciated of her many races. It was that faith, and more especially the hope that America would share it with me, if her eyes could only be opened, that induced me to offer the medal.\* And now, as scientist, soldier, musician—and today, if I mistake not, the ablest of all critics in America—pass before us, it would be a blind America indeed if she did not recognize the capabilities of the race that has given her Young and Just, Burleigh and Braithwaite.†

#### Co-operation With Other Organizations

Endeavor has been made to co-operate with other effective organizations as occasion offered. Important among such endeavors was the Association's joint effort with the National

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\*Given annually to the American of African descent who (in the opinion of the Committee of Award: Bishop John Hurst, William Howard Taft, James H. Dillard, Oswald Garrison Villard, John Hope) has made the highest achievement during the preceding year in any field of elevated or honorable human endeavor.

†Colonel Charles Young, Edward Everett Just, Harry T. Burleigh and Mr. Braithwaite, the recipients of the medal in this and the years immediately preceding.



League on Urban Conditions Among Negroes, the Jeanes Fund, the Slater Fund, the Phelps Stokes Fund, and Tuskegee to influence the policy, and more particularly the practice, of unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, so that these unions should not discriminate against colored workers. Two conferences were held with the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor and a memorandum submitted to the annual convention of the Federation held at St. Paul during the past summer. Some good was accomplished but much more in this field remains to be done.

The same co-operating organizations were successful in impressing upon the Secretary of Labor and the Advisory Council to the Secretary the need of some interdepartmental machinery under the control of an officer of the department with sufficient powers and staff to permit him to be of service to the department in advising the Secretary of Labor and guiding the department's policy in dealing with Negro labor, with the intent that Negro labor should be given full opportunity to participate on equal terms with white labor in the government's war labor program, to be paid the same wage for equal work and to be surrounded by equal safeguards. As a direct result of these joint efforts, Dr. George E. Haynes was appointed and is now Director of Negro Economics. The title "Director of Negro Economics" is a misleading one as there is no occasion or warrant for differentiating *Negro* economics from economics in general, nor does the Director's work have any such purpose or result.

Assistance was given to the movement to establish an employment bureau in New York and secure an appropriation of five thousand dollars therefor, which would be located adjacent to a source of Negro labor. This bureau has been located in Harlem.

The Association and many of the branches cooperated with the Surgeon General of the army in efforts made by the

Division of Venereal Diseases to combat and prevent the ravages of these diseases and to improve the health and moral surroundings of army camps and near-by communities. Similar cooperation was given to the United States Public Health Service when it assumed the duties formerly undertaken by the Surgeon General's Office. Lists of branch officers were furnished and efforts made, through the Association's publications, to secure colored audiences for the representatives of these two divisions of the government service.

Similar efforts were made to assist the War Camp Community Service, the Association offering at one time to enlist the cooperation of the branches in the vicinity of the several army camps in that service and to organize this cooperation on a national scale. Unfortunately, the War Community Service expressed itself as unable to avail itself of the services of the Association.

### Increased Staff and New Officers

On February 1st, the present secretary began work, succeeding Roy Nash, who had resigned in May, 1917, to enter the army, going to France with the A. E. F. as captain of a regiment of colored artillery in the 92nd Division. From May, 1917 until February, 1918, the office of secretary remained vacant. On February 1, the present assistant secretary was added to the executive staff. Soon thereafter came the Moorfield Storey Drive for increased membership and a rapid increase in the volume and scope of the Association's work. New workers were added to meet the demands. On December 1st, the Association offices were moved to larger quarters in the same building where good light and about three times the amount of working space for the general administrative offices were obtained and a somewhat larger space for the publication offices of *The Crisis*.

At the beginning of the year the general administrative

office of the Association had five executive and clerical employees whereas at the end of the year this number had been increased to twelve. *The Crisis* editorial and business staff at the end of the year numbered twelve persons, making a total of twenty-four editorial, business, executive, staff and clerical employees for all branches of the Association's work.\*

In October, Rev. R. W. Bagnall was added to the field staff for half time work as District Organizer for the Great Lakes District, comprising Michigan, Ohio, Indiana and parts of Illinois, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania.

### Officers for 1919

At the annual meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors held in January, 1919, Miss Mary White Ovington was elected Chairman of the Board, Capt. Arthur B. Spingarn was elected a Vice-President, Miss Ovington and Mr. John E. Milholland retiring from their respective Vice-presidencies. All other 1918 officers and directors were re-elected.

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\*As we go to press in March, 1919, there have been added to the general office employees since January 1, 1918, six additional persons.

# IX

## FINANCES

### TREASURER'S REPORT

For the Year ending December 31, 1918

#### GENERAL FUND

Balance in Bank December 31, 1917.....	\$2,004.81
Balance in Petty Cash Fund.....	25.00

#### RECEIPTS for the year:

Memberships.....	\$21,811.21
Contributions.....	5,704.40
Literature Sales.....	247.15
<i>Crisis</i> Subscriptions (Net).....	25.10
	<hr/>
	\$27,787.86
	<hr/>
	\$29,817.67

#### EXPENDITURES for the year:

Salaries.....	\$12,669.50
Traveling Expense.....	3,442.25
Printing.....	2,235.61
Postage.....	1,270.66
Rent of Office.....	633.33
General Expense and Supplies.....	921.41
Advertising.....	369.25
Branch Bulletin (Net Cost of Printing).....	192.55
Telephone.....	199.07
Telegrams.....	279.72
Multigraphing.....	406.04
Office Partitions and Fixtures.....	464.33
Meetings (Rent of Halls).....	130.00
Moorfield Storey Drive Buttons (Net).....	35.60
Tercentenary Celebration Appropriation.....	100.00
Clippings, Press Photos and Cuts.....	73.36
	<hr/>
	\$23,422.68
Furniture Purchased.....	1,198.45
Advanced to <i>The Crisis</i> .....	750.00
Emblems Purchased (Net).....	118.06
	<hr/>
	25,489.19

Balance in Bank December 31, 1918.....	\$4,228.48	
Balance in Petty Cash Fund.....	100.00	
		<u>\$4,328.48</u>

## BALANCE SHEET

## GENERAL FUND

## ASSETS:

Balance in Bank December 31, 1918.....	\$4,228.48
Balance in Petty Cash Fund.....	100.00
Furniture and Fixtures.....	2,147.83
Emblems on Hand.....	395.76
Bills Receivable.....	1,064.96
	<u>\$7,937.03</u>

## LIABILITIES:

Due to <i>The Crisis</i> for Subscriptions.....	145.30
NET WORTH December 31, 1918.....	7,791.73
	<u>\$7,937.03</u>

## SPECIAL FUNDS

## Balances in Banks December 31, 1917:

Anti-Lynching Fund.....	\$7,977.17	
Maclean Memorial Fund.....	281.47	
Legal Fund.....	42.50	
Jim Crow Fund.....	8.00	
		<u>\$8,309.14</u>

## RECEIPTS for the year:

Anti-Lynching Fund.....	\$1,551.73	
Maclean Memorial Fund.....	5.62	
Legal Fund.....	34.00	
		<u>1,591.35</u>
<i>Carried forward</i> .....		<u>\$9,900.49</u>

<i>Brought forward</i> .....	\$9,900.49
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EXPENDITURES for the year:

Anti-Lynching Fund:

Traveling and Investigation.....	\$2,000.44
Salaries.....	624.53
Telegrams.....	381.28
Multigraphing.....	255.11

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\$3,283.23

Maclean Memorial Fund—Printing.....	71.75
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3,354.98

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\$6,545.51

Balances in Banks December 31, 1918:

Anti-Lynching Fund.....	\$6,245.67
Maclean Memorial Fund.....	215.34
Legal Fund.....	76.50
Jim Crow Fund.....	8.00

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\$6,545.51

GENTLEMEN:

Herewith I hand you Revenue and Expense Account for the year 1918 and Balance Sheet as of December 31, 1918, as drawn off by me from your ledger. I have independently verified the amount of Cash in Banks.

Respectfully submitted,

F. J. BATCHELDER, C. P. A.

## X

### THE TASK FOR THE FUTURE—A PROGRAM FOR 1919

First and foremost among the objectives for 1919 must be the strengthening of the Association's organization and resources. Its general program must be adapted to specific ends. Its chief aims have many times been stated:

1. A vote for every Negro man and woman on the same terms as for white men and women.

2. An equal chance to acquire the kind of an education that will enable the Negro everywhere wisely to use this vote.

3. A fair trial in the courts for all crimes of which he is accused, by judges in whose election he has participated without discrimination because of race.

4. A right to sit upon the jury which passes judgment upon him.

5. Defense against lynching and burning at the hands of mobs.

6. Equal service on railroad and other public carriers. This to mean sleeping car service, dining car service, Pullman service, at the same cost and upon the same terms as other passengers.

7. Equal right to the use of public parks, libraries and other community services for which he is taxed.

8. An equal chance for a livelihood in public and private employment.

9. The abolition of color-hyphenation and the substitution of "straight Americanism."



If it were not a painful fact that more than four-fifths of the colored people of the country are denied the above named elementary rights, it would seem an absurdity that an organization is necessary to demand for American citizens the exercise of such rights. One would think, if he were from Mars, or if he knew America only by reading the speeches of her leading statesmen, that all that would be needful would be to apply to the courts of the land and to the legislatures. Has not slavery been abolished? Are not all men equal before the law? Were not the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments passed by the Congress of the United States and adopted by the states? Is not the Negro a man and a citizen?

When the fundamental rights of citizens are so wantonly denied and that denial justified and defended as it is by the lawmakers and dominant forces of so large a number of our states, it can be realized that the fight for the Negro's citizenship rights means a fundamental battle for real things, for life and liberty.

This fight is the Negro's fight. "Who would be free, himself must strike the blow." But, it is no less the white man's fight. The common citizenship rights of no group of people, to say nothing of nearly 12,000,000 of them, can be denied with impunity to the State and the social order which denies them. This fact should be plain to the dullest mind among us, with the upheavals of Europe before our very eyes. Whoso loves America and cherishes her institutions, owes it to himself and his country to join hands with the members of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to "Americanize" America and make the kind of democracy we Americans believe in to be the kind of democracy we shall have in *fact*, as well as in theory.

The Association seeks to overthrow race prejudice but its objective may better be described as a fight against *caste*.

Those who seek to separate the Negro from the rest of Americans are intent upon establishing a caste system in America and making of all black men an *inferior caste*. As America could not exist "half slave and half free" so it cannot exist with an upper caste of whites and a lower caste of Negroes. Let no one be deceived by those who would contend that they strive only to maintain "the purity of the white race" and that they wish to separate the races but to do no injustice to the black man. The appeal is to history which affords no example of any group or element of the population of any nation which was separated from the rest and at the same time treated with justice and consideration. Ask the Jew who was compelled to live in the proscribed Ghetto whether being held separate he was afforded the common rights of citizenship and the "equal protection of the laws?" To raise the question is to find the answer "leaping to the eyes," as the French say.

Nor should any one be led astray by the tiresome talk about "social equality". Social equality is a private question which may well be left to individual decision. But, the prejudices of individuals cannot be accepted as the controlling policy of a state. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is concerned primarily with *public equality*. America is a nation—not a private club. The privileges no less than the duties of citizenship belong of right to no *separate class* of the people but to *all* the people, and to them as *individuals*. The constitution and the laws are for the protection of the minority and of the unpopular, no less than for the favorites of fortune, or they are of no meaning as American instruments of government.

Such a fight as has been outlined is worthy of the support of all Americans. The forces which seek to deny, and do deny, to the Negro his citizenship birthright, are powerful and intrenched. They hold the public offices. They ad-

minister the law. They say who may, and who may not vote, in large measure. They control and edit, in many sections, the influential organs of public opinion. They dominate. To dislodge them by legal and constitutional means as the N. A. A. C. P. proposes to endeavor to dislodge them, requires a strong organization and ample funds. These two things attained, victory is but a question of time, since justice will not forever be denied.

The lines along which the Association can best work are fairly clear. Its fight is of the brain and the soul and to the brain and the soul of America. *It seeks to reach the conscience of America.* America is a large and busy nation. It has many things to think of besides the Negro's welfare. In Congress and state legislatures and before the bar of public opinion, the Association must energetically and adequately defend the Negro's right to fair and equal treatment. To command the interest and hold the attention of the American people for *justice to the Negro* requires money to print and circulate literature which states the facts of the situation. And the appeal must be on the basis of the facts. It is easy to talk in general terms and abstractly. The presentation of concrete data necessitates ample funds.

*Lynching must be stopped.* Many Americans do not believe that such horrible things happen as do happen when Negroes are lynched and burned at the stake. Lynching can be stopped when we can reach the hearts and consciences of the American people. Again, money is needed.

*Legal work must be done.* Defenseless Negroes are every day denied the "equal protection of the laws" because there is not money enough in the Association's treasury to defend them, either as individuals or as a race.

*Legislation must be watched.* Good laws must be promoted wherever that be possible and bad laws opposed and defeated, wherever possible. Once more, money is essential.

*The public must be kept informed.* This means a regular press service under the supervision of a trained newspaper man who knows the difference between news and gossip, on the one hand, and mere opinion on the other. That colored people are contributing their fair share to the well-being of America must be made known. The war has made familiar the heroic deeds of the colored soldier. The colored civilian has been, and is now, contributing equally to America's welfare. If men have proven to be heroes in warfare, they must have had virtues in peace time. That law-abiding colored people are denied the commonest citizenship rights, must be brought home to all Americans who love fair play. Once again, money is needed.

*The facts must be gathered and assembled.* This requires effort. Facts are not gotten out of one's imagination. Their gathering and interpretation is skilled work. Research workers of a practical experience are needed. Field investigations, in which domain the Association has already made some notable contributions, are essential to good work. More money.

*The country must be thoroughly organized.* The Association's nearly 200 branches are a good beginning.\* A field staff is essential to the upbuilding of this important branch development. A very large percentage of the branch members are colored people. As a race they have less means, and less experience in public organization, than white people. But, they are developing rapidly habits of efficiency in organization. Money, again is needed.

*But, not money alone is needed.* Men and women are vital to success. Public opinion is the main force upon which the Association relies for a *victory of justice*.

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\*Since December 31, 1918, the number of branches has further increased (April 1, 1919) from 165 to 190, and the number of members to approximately 50,000.

**Summing Up, the Following Budget for 1919 is needed:**

For Administrative Work and Supervision.....	\$7,300
For Field Organization, Investigation and Travel- ing Expense.....	12,000
For Department of Branches and <i>Branch Bul- letin</i> .....	2,700
For Educational and Publicity Work.....	9,000
For the Fight Against Lynching.....	10,000
For Legislative and Legal Work.....	2,000
For General Office Expense, Rent, Clerical and Stenographic Salaries, Postage and all other maintenance items.....	19,000
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Total.....	\$62,000

As we go to press (April, 1919), the Association's actual expenditures, for the first three months of 1919, except for the item of \$2,000 for legislative and legal work, which is a proposed addition to present expenditures, are at the rate given in the above budget. The amount asked for, therefore, is the minimum which must be obtained if we are to be enabled to carry on the work as at present.

# APPENDIX I

## MEMBERSHIP

	No. of Branches	Branch Membership	Members at Large	Total
Dec. 31 1917.....	80	8,436	846	9,282
Dec. 31, 1918.....	165	42,723	1,271	43,994
Increase.....	85	34,287	425	34,712
Per cent Increase.....	106.2	406.4	50.2	375.0

## GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF BRANCH MEMBERSHIP,

December 31, 1918

Section	No. of Branches	Membership
The North.....	76	20,957
The South.....	70	18,701
The West.....	16	2,859
Outside U. S.....	3	206
	<hr/> 165	<hr/> 42,723
Members At Large (residence not classified).....	....	1,271
		<hr/> 43,994

Section and Division	No. of Branches	Membership
<b>THE NORTH.....</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>20,957</b>
<b>NEW ENGLAND.....</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4,978</b>
<i>Massachusetts.....</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>3,416</i>
Boston.....	..	2,667
New Bedford.....	..	416
Springfield.....	..	333
<i>Rhode Island.....</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>765</i>
Providence.....	..	765
<i>Connecticut.....</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>797</i>
Hartford.....	..	282
New Haven.....	..	515



Section and Division	No. of Branches	Membership
<b>MIDDLE ATLANTIC</b> .....	<b>20</b>	<b>4,701</b>
<i>New York</i> .....	3	1,688
Buffalo.....	..	67
New York.....	..	1,477
Syracuse.....	..	144
<i>New Jersey</i> .....	6	391
Camden.....	..	42
Jersey City.....	..	77
Montclair.....	..	34
Newark.....	..	79
Orange.....	..	122
Trenton.....	..	37
<i>Pennsylvania</i> .....	11	2,622
Braddock.....	..	64
Cheyney.....	..	78
Mercer County.....	..	85
Harrisburg.....	..	109
Johnstown.....	..	215
Lincoln University.....	..	36
New Castle.....	..	52
Philadelphia.....	..	896
Pittsburgh.....	..	729
Washington.....	..	290
York.....	..	68
<b>EAST NORTH CENTRAL</b> .....	<b>36</b>	<b>8,021</b>
<i>Ohio</i> .....	14	4,117
Akrón.....	..	107
Cincinnati.....	..	558
Cleveland.....	..	1,013
Columbus.....	..	665
Dayton.....	..	326
Greene Co.....	..	358
Lorain.....	..	56
Middletown.....	..	37
Oberlin.....	..	123
Springfield.....	..	179
Toledo.....	..	538
Urbana.....	..	64
Wellsville.....	..	43
Youngstown.....	..	50
<i>Indiana</i> .....	6	555
Evansville.....	..	21
Fort Wayne.....	..	42
Gary.....	..	162



Section and Division	No. of Branches	Membership
<b>EAST NORTH CENTRAL—Continued.</b>		
<i>Indiana—Continued.</i>		
Indianapolis.....	..	235
Marion.....	..	55
Muncie.....	..	40
<i>Illinois.....</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>2,121</i>
Bloomington.....	..	66
Chicago.....	..	1,263
Danville.....	..	20
Decatur.....	..	152
East St. Louis.....	..	17
Evanston.....	..	31
Maywood.....	..	60
Moline.....	..	110
Peoria.....	..	185
Quincy.....	..	81
Springfield.....	..	136
<i>Michigan.....</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>1,228</i>
Adrian.....	..	42
Bay City.....	..	60
Detroit.....	..	1,026
Flint.....	..	50
Ypsilanti.....	..	50
<b>WEST NORTH CENTRAL.....</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3,257</b>
<i>Minnesota.....</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>810</i>
Minneapolis.....	..	554
St. Paul.....	..	256
<i>Iowa.....</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>506</i>
Cedar Rapids.....	..	57
Davenport.....	..	50
Des Moines.....	..	368
Ottumwa.....	..	31
<i>Missouri.....</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>786</i>
Kansas City.....	..	136
St. Louis.....	..	625
Springfield.....	..	25
<i>Nebraska.....</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>344</i>
Lincoln.....	..	236
Omaha.....	..	108
<i>Kansas.....</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>811</i>
Kansas City.....	..	691
Topeka.....	..	90
Western University.....	..	30

Section and Division	No. of Branches	Membership
<b>THE SOUTH</b> .....	<b>70</b>	<b>18,701</b>
<b>SOUTH ATLANTIC</b> .....	<b>45</b>	<b>12,504</b>
<i>District of Columbia</i> .....	1	6,843
<i>Delaware</i> .....	1	295
Wilmington.....	..	295
<i>Maryland</i> .....	2	335
Baltimore.....	..	305
Baltimore County.....	..	30
<i>Virginia</i> .....	11	1,097
Charlottesville.....	..	44
Danville.....	..	136
Falls Church.....	..	60
Lynchburg.....	..	91
Norfolk.....	..	52
Petersburg.....	..	68
Portsmouth.....	..	39
Richmond.....	..	399
Roanoke.....	..	120
Salem.....	..	68
Virginia Union University.....	..	20
<i>West Virginia</i> .....	4	226
Bluefield.....	..	26
Charleston.....	..	105
Morgantown.....	..	34
Wheeling.....	..	61
— <i>North Carolina</i> .....	7	373
Asheville.....	...	71
Durham.....	...	30
Fayetteville.....	...	46
Greensboro.....	...	46
Raleigh.....	...	49
Rocky Mount.....	...	51
Winston-Salem.....	...	80
<i>South Carolina</i> .....	4	997
Aiken.....	...	29
Charlestown.....	...	881
Columbia.....	...	59
Darlington.....	...	28
<i>Georgia</i> .....	11	1,452
Athens.....	...	36
Atlanta.....	...	730
Augusta.....	...	71
Brunswick.....	...	75

Section and Division	No. of Branches	Membership
<b>SOUTH ATLANTIC—Continued.</b>		
<i>Georgia—Continued.</i>		
Columbus.....	...	132
Hawkinsville.....	...	25
Macon.....	...	109
Rome.....	...	112
Savannah.....	...	79
Thomasville.....	...	52
Waycross.....	...	31
<i>Florida.....</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>886</i>
Jacksonville.....	...	484
Key West.....	...	147
St. Augustine.....	...	88
Tampa.....	...	167
<b>EAST SOUTH CENTRAL.....</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2,591</b>
<i>Kentucky.....</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1,325</i>
Louisville.....	..	1,325
<i>Tennessee.....</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1,012</i>
Fayette Co.....	..	26
Memphis.....	..	986
<i>Alabama.....</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>218</i>
Montgomery.....	..	137
Selma.....	..	81
<i>Mississippi.....</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>36</i>
Vicksburg.....	..	36
<b>WEST SOUTH CENTRAL.....</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>3,606</b>
<i>Arkansas.....</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>211</i>
Fort Smith.....	...	50
Little Rock.....	...	56
Pine Bluff.....	...	105
<i>Louisiana.....</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>648</i>
New Orleans.....	...	401
St. Rose.....	...	76
Shreveport.....	...	171
<i>Oklahoma.....</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>95</i>
Muskogee.....	..	50
Oklahoma City.....	..	45
<i>Texas.....</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>2,652</i>
Austin.....	...	75
Beaumont.....	...	94
Dallas.....	...	169
El Paso.....	...	75

Section and Division	No. of Branches	Membership
<b>WEST SOUTH CENTRAL—Continued.</b>		
<i>Texas—Continued.</i>		
Fort Worth.....	...	166
Galveston.....	...	141
Gonzales.....	...	50
Houston.....	...	414
Orange.....	...	182
San Antonio.....	...	1,228
Silsbee.....	...	58
<b>THE WEST.....</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>2,859</b>
<b>MOUNTAIN.....</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>717</b>
<i>Colorado.....</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>562</i>
Colorado Springs.....	...	55
Denver.....	...	394
Pueblo.....	...	113
<i>New Mexico.....</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>110</i>
Albuquerque.....	..	110
<i>Utah.....</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>45</i>
Salt Lake City.....	..	45
<b>PACIFIC.....</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>.....</b>
<i>Washington.....</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>221</i>
Seattle.....	..	221
<i>Oregon.....</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>165</i>
Portland.....	..	165
<i>California.....</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>1,756</i>
Bakersfield.....	...	74
Los Angeles.....	...	277
Northern California.....	...	1,025
Riverside.....	...	65
Sacramento.....	...	71
San Jose.....	...	64
Santa Monica Bay.....	...	25
Stockton.....	...	82
Vallejo.....	...	73
<b>OUTSIDE UNITED STATES.....</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>206</b>
Isthmian, Canal Zone.....	..	41
Pampanga, P. I.....	..	126
Toronto, Canada.....	..	39

## APPENDIX II

### COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF MEMBERSHIP BY YEARS, 1912-1918, INCLUSIVE.\*

	Branches	Members
1912.....	3	329
1913.....	10	1 100
1914.....	24	3,000
1915.....	50	6,000
1916.....	70	8 785
1917.....	80	9,282
1918.....	165	43,994

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\* Figures are as of December 31, of the year named. Membership At Large included in totals.

## APPENDIX III

### LYNCHING RECORD FOR 1917 AND 1918

#### 1917

The following is the lynching record for 1917. In addition to the two white persons and forty-five Negroes lynched, whose names are listed, there occurred the East St. Louis, Ill., riots in July and a mob attack on Negroes at Chester, Pa., in September. In the latter case, three Negroes were killed, in the former an unascertained number which has been variously estimated. The *Special Committee Authorized by Congress to Investigate the East St. Louis Riots* (65th Congress, 2d Session) said in its official report: "At least thirty-nine Negroes and eight white people were killed outright and hundred of Negroes were wounded and maimed. 'The bodies of the dead Negroes,' testified an eyewitness, 'were thrown into a morgue like so many dead hogs.'" Investigators for the Association estimated the number to be as many as 175.

#### NEGROES

Proctor, Ark., February 9—James Smith (alias Coy Anderson), hanged; murder.

Hammond, La., February 28—Emma Hooper, hanged; wounding a constable.

Meigs, Ga., March 2—Linton Clinton, shot; assault upon a white girl.

Maysville, Ky., March 12—William Sanders, hanged; robbery.

Dyersburg, Tenn., March 19—William Thomas, hanged; shooting an officer.

Kissimmee, Fla., March 27—S. C. Garner, hanged; refusal to give up farm.

Pelham, Ga., March 28—Joe Nowling, hanged; reason unknown.

Shreveport, La., May 11—Henry Brooks, shot; intimacy with a white woman.

Fulton, Ky., May 20—Lawrence Dempsey, hanged; wounding a railroad watchman.

Memphis, Tenn., May 22—Ell Person, burned; rape and murder.

Columbia, Miss., June 2—Van Hayes, hanged; murder.



Holdenville, Okla., June 16—Henry Conley, hanged; assault upon a white woman.

Courtney, Tex., June 21—Ben Harper, hanged; drove an automobile that ran down and killed a white girl.

Riesel, Tex., June 23—Elijah Hays, beaten to death; striking a white woman.

Cleveland, Fla., June 24—Shep Trent, shot; attempt to attack a white woman.

Galveston, Tex., June 25—Chester Sawyer, hanged; attacking a white woman.

Temple, Tex., June 29—Robert Jefferson, shot; without provocation.

East St. Louis, Ill., July 2—175 colored men, women and children slain by mobs.\*

Orange, Tex., July 3—Gilbert Guidry, hanged; charged with attempted rape.

Edgard, La., July 10—Marcel Ruffin, drowned; vagrancy.

Reform, Ala., July 16—Unidentified Negro, hanged; petty theft.

Pickens County, Ala., July 23—Poe Hibbler, hanged; attempted assault upon a white girl.

Elysian Fields, Tex., July 23—Unnamed, hanged; entering a woman's room.

Letchatchie, Ala., July 25—Will Powell and Jesse Powell, hanged; insolence.

Amite, La., July 30—Dan Rout and Jerry Rout, hanged; murder.

Garland City, Okla., July 31—Arland Avery, hanged; robbery.

Ashdown, Ark., August 9—Aaron Jimerson, hanged; attacking a constable.

Heathsville, Va., August 16—William Page, hanged; attempted assault upon a white girl.

Memphis, Tenn., August 17—Strickland, hanged; reason unknown.

Marshall, Tex., August 22—Charles Jones, hanged; entering room of a white woman.

York, S. C., August 23—W. T. Sims, shot; opposing draft law.

Chester, Pa., Sept. 3—3 colored men killed by mob.

Beaumont, Tex., Sept. 3—Charles Jennings, shot; cause unknown.

Athens, Ga., Sept. 18—Rufus Moncrief, hanged; attacking a white woman.

Goose Creek, Tex., Sept. 21—Bert Smith, hanged; attacking a white woman.

England, Ark., Sept. 21—Sam Cates, shot; annoying white girls.

Danville, Va., October 12—Walter Clark, shot; resisting arrest.

New Orleans, La.—Fred Johnson, hanged; robbery.

Quitman, Ga., Nov. 10—Jesse Staten, shot; insolent letter to a white woman.

Sale City, Ga., Nov. 17—Collins Johnson and D. C. Johnson, hanged; disputing white man's word.

Welch, W. Va., Nov. 22—Unidentified Negro, shot; attacking white woman.

Dyersburg, Tenn., Dec. 2—Ligon Scott, burned; attacking a white woman.

Rock Springs, Wyo., Dec. 14—Wade Hampton, hanged; annoying white women.

Matter, Ga., Dec. 15—Claxton Dekle, hanged; killing in quarrel.

## WHITE

Florence, Ariz., May 6—Star Daley, murder.

Butte, Montana, Aug. 1—Frank Lirtle, hanged; strike leader (I. W. W.).

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\*N. A. A. C. P. estimate.

1918

- January 17—Hazelhurst, Miss., Sam Edwards, burned to death; charged with murder of Bera Willes, seventeen-year-old white girl.
- “ 26—Benton, La., Jim Hudson, hanged; living with a white woman.
- February 7—Fayetteville, Ga., “Bud” Cosby, hanged; intent to rob and kidnapping.
- “ 12—Estill Springs, Tenn., Jim McIlhleron, burned; accused of shooting to death two white men. G. W. Lych, who hid McIlhleron, was shot to death.
- “ 23—Fairfax, S. C., Walter Best, hanged; accused of murder.
- “ 26—Rayville, La., Jim Lewis, Jim Jones and Will Powell, two hanged and one shot to death; accused of stealing hogs. In the fray one white man and one Negro were killed.
- “ 26—Willacoochee, Ga., Ed. Dan-sy, shot; he had killed two white officers and wounded three others.
- March 16—Monroe, La., George Mc-Neel and John Richards, hanged; alleged attack upon a white woman.
- 22—Crawfordsville, Ga., Spencer Evans, hanged; convicted of criminal assault upon a colored woman at the February term of court and sentenced to be hanged, but a mob took him from jail and lynched him.
- March 26—Lewiston, N. C., Peter Bazemore; alleged attack upon a white woman.
- April 4—Collinsville, Ill., Robert P. Praeger, hanged (white); accused of making disloyal remarks.
- “ 20—Poplarville, Miss., Claud Singleton, hanged; accused of murdering a white man. He had been sentenced to life imprisonment.
- “ 22—Lexington, Tenn., Berry Noyes, hanged; murder of Sheriff W. E. McBride.
- “ 22—Monroe, La., Clyde Williams, hanged; shooting C. L. Thomas, Missouri-Pacific station agent at Fawndale.
- May 17—Valdosta, Ga., Will Head, Will Thompson, Hayes Turner, Mary Turner, Sydney Johnson, Eugene Rice, Chime Riley, Simon Schuman and three unidentified Negroes, hanged; alleged complicity in the murder of Hampton Smith.
- “ 20—Erwin, Tenn., Thomas De-vert, shot and burned; alleged murder of a white girl.
- 22—Miami, Fla., Henry Jackson, hanged; throwing a white man underneath a train.
- “ 22—Red Level, Ala., John Womack, shot; alleged assault on a white woman.
- “ 23—Cordele, Ga., James Cobb, hanged; alleged murder of Mrs. Roy Simmons.
- “ 25—Barnesville, Ga., John Calhoun, shot; alleged murder of John A. Willis.
- June 4—Huntsville, Tex., Sarah Cabiness and her five children; Peter, Cute, Tenola, Thomas and Bessie, shot; alleged threat to avenge killing of George Cabiness.

- June 4—Beaumont, Tex., Kirby Goolsie, hanged; alleged attack on a white girl.
- “ 4—Sanderson, Tex., Edward Valentine (white); murder.
- “ 18—Mangham, La., George Clayton, hanged; murder of his employer, Ben Brooks. In a battle with the posse he wounded six men, probably fatally.
- “ 18—Earle, Ark., Allen Mitchell, hanged; wounding Mrs. W. M. Langston.
- “ 29—Madill, Okla., L. McGill, hanged; alleged attack upon a white woman.
- July 27—Ben Hur, Tex., Gene Brown, hanged; alleged assault on a white woman.
- August 7—Bastrop, La., “Bubber” Hall, hanged; alleged attack on a white woman.
- “ 11—Colquit, Ga., Ike Radney; reason unknown.
- “ 15—Natchez, Miss., Bill Dukes, shot to death. “He was guilty of a crime too revolting for publication.”
- “ 15—Quincy, Fla., unidentified Negro; reason unknown.
- “ 15—Macon, Ga., John Gilham, hanged; alleged attack on two white women.
- “ 28—Hot Springs, Ark., Frederick Wagner (white); disloyal utterances.
- September 3—San Pedro, Cal., Warren Czerich (white); murder.
- “ 18—Buff Lake, Tex., Abe O’Neal; shot and wounded white man.
- “ 24—Waycross, Ga., Sandy Reeves, hanged; alleged assault on a white girl.
- November 5—Rolesville, N. C., George Taylor, hanged; rape.
- “ 11—Sheffield, Ala., William Bird, hanged; “for creating disturbance.”
- “ 12—Sheffield, Ala., George Whiteside, hanged; charged with the murder of a policeman.
- November 14—Fort Bend County, Tex., Charles Shipman; disagreement with landowner.
- “ 24—Culpepper, Va., Allie Thompson; charged with assaulting a white woman.
- December 10—Green River, Wyo., Edward Woodson; charged with killing a railroad switchman.
- “ 16—Hickman, Ky., Charles Lewis, hanged; alleged to have beaten Deputy Sheriff Thomas.
- “ 18—Newport, Ark., Willis Robinson, hanged; murder of Patrolman Charles Williams.
- “ 21—Shubuta, Miss., Major and Andrew Clarke and Maggie and Alma House, hanged; accused of murder of Dr. E. L. Johnston.

## LIST OF PAMPHLET PUBLICATIONS

### Single Copies Free Upon Request

- Why and Wherefore of the N. A. A. C. P.;** 1918, small 6 page folder.
- How The N. A. A. C. P. Began,** Mary White Ovington; 1914, reprinted, 1917; 8 pages.
- The Negro Question;** An address delivered by Moorfield Storey, June 27, 1918, before the Wisconsin Bar Association, with resolutions adopted by the Bar Association following the delivery of the address; 30 pages, ten cents.
- The Changing Status of Negro Labor;** An address delivered by James Weldon Johnson, May, 1918, before the National Conference of Social Work, Kansas City, Mo.
- The Negro in War Time;** by Bolton Smith, with a rejoinder by James Weldon Johnson; reprinted from *The Public* of August 31, 1918 and September 21, 1918; 10 pages.
- Africa in the World Democracy;** Addresses delivered at Carnegie Hall, New York, January 6, 1919, by Horace Mayer Kallen and James Weldon Johnson, with summary of an address by Dr. Wm. Henry Sheppard and a statement on "The Future of Africa" by W. E. Burghardt Du Bois; 30 pages., ten cents.
- What the Statute Covers and What It Doesn't.** (Relation of an incident concerning "Jim-Crow" travel by a white man), reprinted from *The Crisis*, January, 1919; small 4-page leaflet.
- "Work or Fight" in the South;** by Walter F. White; reprinted from *The New Republic*, March 1, 1919; 8 pages.
- Reconstruction and the Negro,** by Mary White Ovington, Perry W. Howard, George A. Towns, S. M. Kendrick, C. V. Roman, M.D., James Weldon Johnson and Janie Porter Barrett; 8 pages.
- Objects of The N. A. A. C. P.,** Oswald Garrison Villard, reprint of an address, 1912; 4 pages.
- Views of a Southern Woman,** Adelene Moffat, address delivered in 1911; 4 pages.
- Leaving it to the South,** Charles Edward Russell; 4 pages.
- Has the Emancipation Act Been Nullified by National Indifference,** Jane Addams, reprinted from *The Survey*, February 1, 1913; 4 pages.
- Social Control,** Jane Addams; 2 pages.
- The Negro as a Soldier,** Brigadier General Andrew S. Burt, U. S. A. (retired); reprint from *The Crisis*, 1910; 4 pages.
- A Half Century of Freedom,** W. E. Burghardt Du Bois; 4 pages; reprinted from *The Crisis*.
- The White Brute,** Mary White Ovington; reprinted from *The Masses*, for November, 1915; 2 pages.
- Reconstruction and the Ku Klux in South Carolina,** a compilation; 4 pages.
- The Real Race Problem from the Point of View of Anthropology,** Prof. Franz Boas, Columbia University; address delivered in 1910; 8 pages.
- The African Roots of War,** W. E. Burghardt Du Bois; reprinted from *Atlantic Monthly* for May, 1915; 8 pages and cover. (Out of print.)

## LYNCHING PAMPHLETS

- Thirty Years of Lynching in the United States, 1889-1918;** circa, 100 pages, fifteen cents.
- The Fight Against Lynching;** anti-lynching work of the N. A. A. C. P. for 1918, reprinted from Ninth Annual Report; 20 pages, ten cents.
- President Wilson's Lynching and Mob Violence Pronouncement** (of July 26, 1918).
- Lynchings of May, 1918, in Brooks and Lowndes Counties, Georgia;** an investigation by the N. A. A. C. P.; 8 pages.
- The Negro Question,** an address by Moorfield Storey (discusses lynching). See page 93.
- The Massacre of East St. Louis;** an account of an investigation by W. E. Burghardt Du Bois and Martha Gruening, for the N. A. A. C. P., illustrated, 20 pages, reprinted from *The Crisis* for September, 1917.
- The Burning of Ell Person at Memphis, Tenn;** an account taken from the Memphis daily papers of May 22, 23, 24 and June 3, 1917; 4 pages.
- The Burning of Ell Person at Memphis, Tenn.;** an investigation by James Weldon Johnson for the N. A. A. C. P.; reprinted from *The Crisis* for July, 1917.
- The Lynching of Anthony Crawford** (at Abbeville, S. C., October 21, 1916). Article by Roy Nash (then) Secretary, N. A. A. C. P.; reprinted from *The Independent* for December, 1916; 4 pages, large size.
- Notes on Lynching in the United States,** compiled from *The Crisis*, 1912; 16 pages.

## ANNUAL REPORTS

- Proceedings of the National Negro Congress, 1909** (held at New York); 229 pages, cloth bound, \$10.00 per hundred, single copies, 15 cents.
- First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Annual Reports of the N. A. A. C. P.; paper bound.





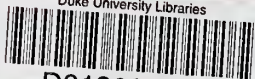








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